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The Festival of the Flowers

By Georgina S. Townsend

THE SUN touched the mountain peaks, and out from the east broke a glorious California day, perfect. A blue sky, balmy air, and a glorious sun. Everywhere were the Fiesta colors, orange yellow for the orange, olive green for the olive, and wine red, for the grape, the three great products of our state. With these gorgeous banners waved the white and pale blue triangle of the G. F. W. C., and the device of their order. For the city of Angels right royally did welcome the visiting club women with its unique entertainment, La Fiesta de los Flores, the festival of the flowers.

The display of flowers was greater than ever before and the artistic arrangements called forth applause from those who had seen all the previous ones; what then was the impression upon the stranger? One eastern woman declared, that the flowers were not real, and no one could make her believe it, for where could they get enough carnations to decorate a huge tallyho solid with them? And yet, before long she was forced to admit, that although she could not grow carnations and lilies and sweet peas in such abundance in New York, it did not follow that we could not do so here.

The most striking tallyho was driven by the Ebell Club. The six horses were coal black, and many visitors commented upon the appearance of the horses in Los Angeles, as they are remarkably handsome. The horses were covered with yellow netting and long, yellow satin streamers. The harness was wrapped in yellow, with yellow rosettes. The wheels and the body of the coach were completely hidden in a bower of wild mustard. The ladies wore yellow dresses and carried black chiffon parasols. The use of wild mustard caused many comments. One Eastern woman said: "We have wild mustard at home, but never think of using it."

And a general comment was made upon the interior decorations of mustard in the tent where the club women rested. The effect of the wild mustard and the pepper boughs was that of a fairy land. Wild mustard is very graceful, of a soft delightful shade of yellow, and is borne upon long wiry stems, which makes it invaluable in all decorations, and though California has every sort of flower to use in decorating, she does not despise anything as satisfactory as mustard, just because it grows wild, and is a "weed." It is deliciously fragrant too.

One of the automobiles driven by two young ladies was decorated as a basket. It was without question one

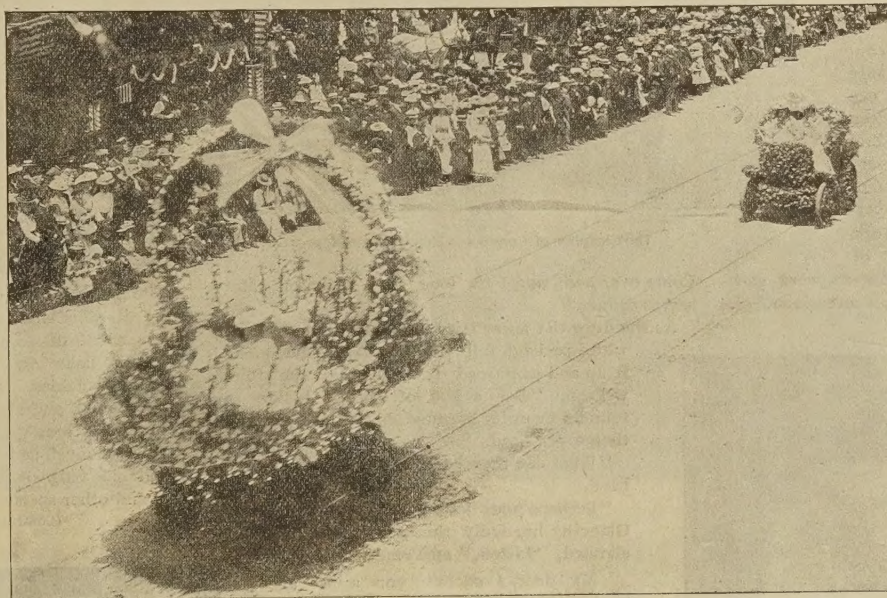
vehicle in the whole long parade. Three thousand La France roses were used and the body of the vehicle was a mass of them, outlined with "dusty miller," which was imported from the northern part of the state. The interior of the victoria was finished in the same silver shimmering gray, and Mrs. Rebecca Douglass Lowe, president of the G. F. W. C., and Miss Fremont, daughter of General Fremont, rode, attired in silver gray, carrying gray chiffon parasols. The horses were gray decorated with a pink harness. There were six outriders, carrying broad pink ribbon which made a cordon about the coach. Friends of the ladies, and club women threw flowers upon them all along the route.

There were two vehicles in sweet peas, and as usual several in carnations, as this was the season for carnations, and hundreds of thousands are grown here every year. Callas are the favorite of the fire laddies who depend upon friends for them. One stanhope was decorated in bougainvillea and white Lady Banksia roses, making a very pretty combination. Another was arranged as an oriental basket, with orange blossoms, over ten thousand white and pink sweet peas and Asparagus plumosus for green.

The Chamber of Commerce, which is so famous all over the country, entered a great auto made up as a ship. It was a two masted, square rigged vessel. The brig's hull was of red geraniums below the water line, and white carnations and smilax above. The masts and rigging were outlined with Asparagus plumosus, and white sweet peas, and above waved the national colors, and the C. of C. pennant of yellow and white. The anchor and rudder were of white sweet peas.

The marshal of the day was a lady, in honor of the women visiting here, and her black horse was decorated with Marechal Niel roses.

One auto was solidly massed with the red and pink varieties of amaryllis, a lily so choice and rare in eastern states as to be especially prized, but which grows in huge beds in this climate. The hybrids are much grown and the pink and white variegations of this royal lily make a beautiful display.



"The basket was made up of white carnations and smilax."

of the daintiest things imaginable, and one could not blame strangers for going into raptures over such sights and declaring over and over again, that it was like fairy land. It was all too beautiful to seem true. The basket was made up of white carnations and smilax, finished with a huge white satin bow, and streamers.

The Friday Morning Club entered a victoria which was unquestionably the most artistically decorated

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The Beautiful Soleil D'Or

By Florence Beckwith

ONE OF the most beautiful roses of recent introduction is the Soleil d'Or. It is the result of a cross between the old and well-known Persian Yellow and the hybrid perpetual Antoine Ducher, and is styled the first of a new race of roses.

Hardy yellow roses are so few in number that any good addition to the list is sure of a welcome, but the Soleil d'Or is so beautiful that it could not fail to meet with approval. It has received many prizes at exhibitions in Europe, and wherever seen in this country it has attracted much attention. Everywhere it is winning popular favor and receiving much praise. Though classed as a yellow rose, it is really unique in color, differing from any other variety in cultivation. The coloring is almost indescribable, being a blending of reddish gold, orange-yellow, nasturtium red and pink, a combination of rich, warm tints that all go to make up a superb flower, for which the name Golden Sun is very appropriate. The buds are long and conical, of a lovely yellow with a tint like burnished copper in the center. The expanded flower is large, full, and deep, measuring from three to four inches in diameter.

With its beauty of coloring the Soleil d'Or unites that crowning glory of a rose, fragrance, and the odor, like the color, is unique. An extensive cultivator of this particular variety says the fragrance reminds one of "cowslips and primroses," but to me the odor is like blending that of the citrus fruits, oranges and lemons, with the delightful scent of a rose, making a delicious, spicy perfume, impossible to describe or to compare with that of any other sort. If the rose were not beautiful in itself, I am sure I would like it for its fragrance alone.

The Soleil d'Or has a vigorous constitution and is perfectly hardy wherever hybrid perpetual roses can be grown. The foliage is glossy green and somewhat fragrant. The bark and wood are reddish and the thorns very fine. The bush attains a height of about three feet. It is styled a "perpetual" bloomer, blossoming in June and again in the fall. The first of last October a number of beautiful flowers were gathered, and even later in the month an occasional one could be found.

In that popular book, "A Woman's Hardy Garden," the author, from her own experience, classes Soleil d'Or among the best, the most satisfactory dozen roses.

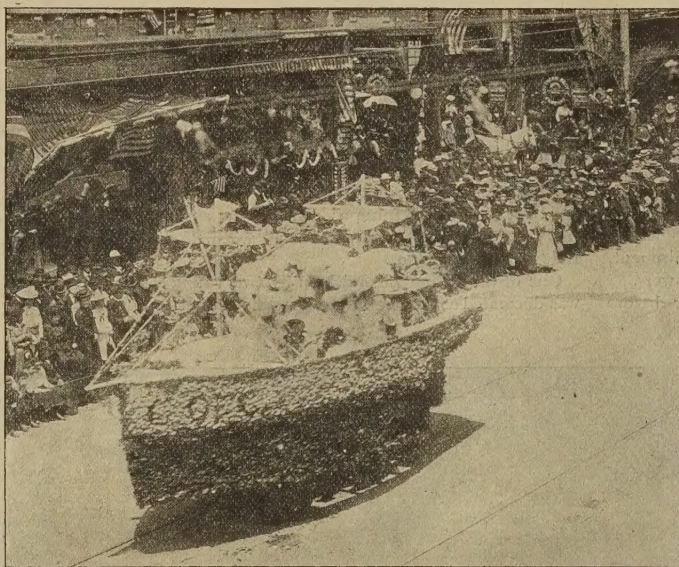
Mr. John Charlton, one of our leading nurserymen, says of it: "Now that the price is more reasonable, we think it will be in great demand by all lovers of fine roses, and I do not think you can say too much in its favor. We have sold quite a few plants of it locally, and we have not yet heard one word to its discredit from anyone."

Combining as it does unusual beauty and fragrance, the Soleil d'Or deserves a place in every garden. We think there is no danger of anyone who loves roses being disappointed in this new and beautiful creation.

A Bed of Gold.

"Here are your letters, Elizabeth," said Styles Ragland, walking into the sunny dining room, where his wife was arranging a bowl of violets for the table.

"One, two, three, four—you are a dear fellow," Styles. This one's from California, and written by Auntie I know.



The Chamber of Commerce Ship. (See article page one.)

Come over here, and let's look into it before Mary serves dinner."

As she drew the letter from its envelope, a small, white package fell into her lap. She picked it up and examined it. Outside, she found written, "For a bed of gold," inside she found a quantity of round, black seed, no larger than a pin-head.

"What can they be?" looking up at her husband.

"Perhaps your letter will enlighten you." Glancing hurriedly through it she exclaimed, "Listen," and read:

"My dear, I enclose you a package of California Poppy seed. The poppies were not in bloom when you visited us. Plant the seed in March, and in June you will reap a harvest of golden flowers. You remember, when visiting us, you said you thought everything was golden in California—the oranges, apricots, lemons, gold mines, and even the character of the people, if it were tested, you were sure would be found—pure gold. Now in memory of that pretty thought, spoken for California, I send you these seeds, from which I hope you will realize a bed of gold.

Devotedly,
Your Aunt."

The next day Elizabeth had a round bed, three feet in diameter, well fertilized and spaded. She bordered it with violets, and the first warm day of March, sowed her seed.



COLUMBINES.

It seemed as if every one of those seed came up, the plants were so thick in the bed. Elizabeth carefully thinned them to twelve inches apart, kept them weeded and worked, and awaited results. She eagerly watched the coming of every fern-like, delicately frosted leaf, until the plants were full of buds, and then one day—oh joy!—she found a golden poppy open.

Have you ever seen a California poppy? If not let me trace for you, Mrs. Kellogg's word-picture of one:

"Think of finest gold, of clearest lemon, of deepest orange on silkiest texture, just bedewed with a frost-like sheen, a silvery film, and you have a faint impression of a California Poppy."

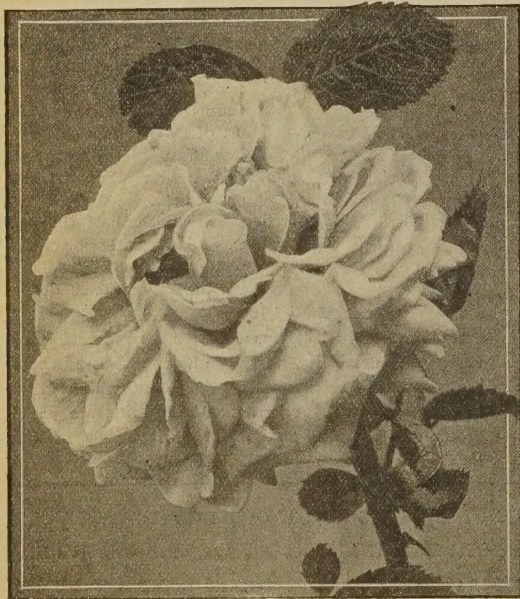
I can not describe to you the pleasure and delight Elizabeth had in caring for and watching her poppies. They had the habit of closing their petals at night, like tired and sleepy children, closing their eyes. But next day they were wide open, wide awake again.

Just try one of these Beds of Gold, dear reader, and see if you don't find it "a thing of beauty and a joy forever." Texas.

Columbines.

The first wild flowering plant that I transplanted from its woodland home to my garden, was a thrifty young plant of *Aquilegia Canadensis*. I had never heard the name *Aquilegia* then. We called the flowers Honeysuckles, when I was a child. I learned the proper name, and also that they were commonly called columbines from Vick's seed catalogue.

Having developed a great deal of admiration for *Aquilegia vulgaris*, I have tried to get a variety of that and other species. This year I had six varieties (Continued on page twenty-three.)



SOLEIL D'OR.



CALIFORNIA POPPY.

One Chrysanthemum Show



THE question of recarpeting and otherwise rehabilitating the church had long agitated the minds of the ladies of a certain aid society. To attain this object a number of entertainments had been given, with more or less success. The end was in sight. How to finish up, was the question.

A certain gifted individual here came forward, with the following positive statement:

"We'll have a Chrysanthemum Show!"

"A Chrysanthemum Show—here!"

"A Chrysanthemum Show—in April!"

The gifted individual took the floor to explain.

It was true that it would be impossible to hold an exhibit in April. It was also true that some months of preparation would be necessary. April was the proper month in which to plan—May, to begin. The ladies began to look up and listen. What the Gifted Individual proposed was that every lady should agree to take as many plants as she could well care for, and, what was more, contribute the money with which to pay for them, the society to order the plants in bulk, as they could be obtained cheaper in that way.

Finally, out of the babel of tongues, it was gathered that the idea was taking, and a special session was called to meet at the home of the Gifted Individual. "Ladies, bring your catalogues, and, above all, your pocket books," was the parting injunction, "And come!"

The ladies came. All but one lonely person. Her presence, as was kindly explained by the Gifted Individual, was not really expected. "She—well you know, ladies, she is very unfortunately situated. Doubtless many of us will have more than we can conveniently care for, and she will be pleased to help us out in that way."

The plants were ordered, and presently time brought a surprise. It was the lonely one who furnished the surprise. It was she who had plants to give away, and finally they fell to wondering at her methods.

"She has no room in the house," said one, "so she has planted them in the yard. She has two great beds of Chrysanthemums and Double Petunias, planted alternately."

"I am so sure she will succeed that I have adopted her methods!" exclaimed the Gifted Individual. "Shall I explain them?" A chorus of ayes in response.

"First she ordered her plants, all choice ones. Then she collected, from grocers and tobacconists, through the medium of her small son, as many of those small, deep, square tobacco boxes, as she has ordered plants. These she filled with soil from her garden beds."

"Not leaf mold?" interrupted one. It is a popular superstition, in their locality, that plants will grow in nothing but leaf mold.

Not leaf mold! Just plain garden soil mixed half

By L. M. Townsend.

and half with earth from a place where had once been a pile of stable refuse. It looked like plain dirt, to me. I used it, too, to be on the safe side. She said that manure would kill young plants. Before filling the boxes she had her little boy bore three holes in the bottom of each, and collect a layer of broken crockery for the same. If she fails, I fail, but she isn't going to get ahead of me.

"Well, but the plants are in the flower beds!"

"So are mine! So are the boxes!"

A chorus of "Ohs."

"She put the plants, both the Chrysanthemums and the Double Petunias, into the boxes. She had ordered as many of the one as of the other. She left them on the floor of the kitchen, along the walls until she was sure of their surviving their journey, and that the roots were working. There was one plant in each box. Then she gave them a little sun and air each day. O, it was work, I assure you, moving those boxes around.

them in the boxes this year, and expects to exhibit the plants along with the Chrysanthemums. I'd like to wager that they will be a greater attraction, and sell better. They bloom all the year around, you know. She says that if she were going to grow her show plants in the house, this summer, that she would not have dared give them such large vessels, just at first, as they would get dyspepsia, and probably die. She thinks they can stand it in the garden, and they certainly appear to be doing so. They're growing, literally, like weeds! She has pinched out the top of each branch."

"What's that for?" this from the energetic one.

Makes the plant throw out more branches, and gives more blooming surface. She will pinch the Double Petunias until she thinks they are well shaped plants, but the Chrysanthemums she will keep on pinching, until the first of August, maybe a half dozen times, in all. After that, the buds set. Then, on the show varieties, (she calls those with the large fancy flowers, show varieties,) she will pick off all buds but one on

a stem. On the smaller varieties she will leave from three to five on a stem, and the tiny Pompons she will thin very little, if at all. She has little wooden stakes, on which is written the name of each plant; these are driven down in the proper boxes."

"But why pick off the buds?"

"Throws the strength of the plant into those that are left. It looks reasonable, certainly!"

Twice that summer, the gardens were thoroughly battered by hail, but our friend's Chrysanthemums and Petunias escaped with little damage, being planted in the borders, in the shelter of the house.

That year frosts came before any one was ready. Behold our friend unearthing a lot of cast off holland blinds! These covered the beds at



THE CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW.

She lost a few plants, but there were nearly two dozen of each left. I think it must have been almost three weeks before she trusted them to the beds, boxes and all. They had started new growth, then. She waters them by means of the garden hose, every morning and evening. She has planted verbenas, sweet alyssum, and I don't know what all, between the boxes. They will soon cover the beds, you know, and will take nothing from the plants. She says that when those in the boxes get to growing rapidly, she will give them plenty of liquid fertilizer, at least once a week. They will soon fill the boxes, and she says she fears that the Double Petunias may outgrow them. She has always planted these latter in the ground, heretofore, but if you can show me a bedder that will give more satisfaction, both in size and quantity of bloom, I wish you would do it! I have seen her take up Petunias in the fall that would fill bushel baskets, just loaded with buds and bloom. But, she says, they don't transplant well while in bloom, so she has left

night. Then came a long spell of pleasant weather, and her garden smiled, where other gardens were bare. Before the weather became so severe as to endanger buds, each box was taken from the bed, washed down with water from the hose, and transferred to the veranda, to be carried indoors when night fell, the small boy of the family taking pleasure in the process, reversing the act in the morning.

With two or three exceptions the boxes had borne the summer well. Luckily these exceptions had contained Chrysanthemums. Although removal has little effect upon these plants, infinite care was taken to disturb the roots as little as possible. Previous to the exhibition our friend painted some of the boxes, and produced a decorative effect by tacking upon others pieces of bark, or strips of saplings with the bark left on. The rest she covered with crepe paper, tacked on in puffs. These were far less artistic.

The Chrysanthemum Show came round at last. It

(Continued on page twenty-five.)

TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS

By Benjamin B. Keech

Spring Work in the Flower Garden.

THE April sunshine has awakened the flowers, and we may shortly turn our attention to outdoor work. The tulips and other bulbs that you planted in the fall are probably sending forth inquiring new shoots from beneath their covering of leaves; but you should not humor them by removing the protection until about the middle of the month. During the first half of April we generally have some very changeable, if not quite severe weather; and it would be a mistake to expose the young, tender shoots to the vagaries of the season.

The first, sunny, spring-like day is not, necessarily, a sample of what is to follow; and the protection of leaves should not be removed until the foliage has developed sufficiently to withstand the effects of a sudden frost. Even then it is often advisable to have a blanket ready to throw over the beds. As stated before in these columns, it is successive freezing and thawing that does more harm to out-door plants than many weeks of really cold weather. Because you find that the different bulbs will blossom after being frozen when just above ground, or even after the foliage and buds have matured, it is not any reason that you should subject them to such treatment, year after year. It is almost better to give no protection, at all, than to take it off in the spring before the weather is settled.

It is generally advisable to use greater care in removing protection from one's roses and similar plants than from the bulb beds. The young shoots are quite tender, and it would be a mistake to expose them to a sudden cold snap. In late seasons wait until well into the month before taking away the protection; then do it gradually, so that the plants will not be harmed by the change. This rule should also be regarded in removing protection from the bulb beds. Remove a little at a time, and results will be much better than otherwise. A portion of the mulch of manure should be worked into the ground. If none was applied last fall, give a liberal dressing, now. One year old compost should be used.

As soon as the protection has been removed from the roses, prune them. Do not leave the work undone any longer than cannot be helped. It does not require an experienced eye to tell which is the live wood and which is not; the young, pink "eyes," or shoots, will answer that question. If every branch is blackened and lifeless, cut it back to the ground. Unless the bush is entirely dead, new growth will spring up from the roots; and in this event, you will probably have as fine a crop of roses as otherwise. Do not be discouraged if you find that most of the branches have winter killed.

If only the tips of the canes are dead, cut them back to the first strong eye, unless you want to shorten them more than that. Aim to give the bush a stocky, symmetrical shape. If there are any long, spindling branches that you think are not needed, remove them. Each branch should usually be shortened about one-third. Begin at the place from which the branch starts out from the body of the plant, count up to the fifth or sixth strong eye, or farther than that, if the bush is very large—and cut the top off at that point. Try to trim out the branches more from the center of the plant than at the sides; this will give free access to air and light, and will generally leave the bush in better shape than otherwise.

Do not let the work of pruning go undone until the leaves have all developed; and do not think that you are obliged to save every young shoot that matures along a branch. In many instances, it will be better if half of them are rubbed off. The climbing roses should, of course, receive attention. All dead wood

and useless branches should be cut away, and the live ones shortened, somewhat. Roses are about as satisfactory plants as any that one can grow; and the flower lover cannot learn too much about them. Study your floral catalogue now, and if you order any roses, let them be chiefly hardy ones.

Have you sown your sweet peas yet? If you haven't, you ought to be thinking about it, for it is time the work was done. The early sower reaps the early blossoms, though they are not always the finest. If the weather during March made it impossible to do the work then, try to improve the first opportunity this month. I hope that you have ordered the seeds—or, better still, that you have them in your possession—and that you know exactly where you want to plant them. If you have the knack of looking ahead and making common sense decisions, a good share of the battle is won. I should always aim to give the sweet pea a sunny location. However, a little shade, along about noon, is very beneficial. It doesn't matter a great deal whether the rows run one way or another, but if you can do so as well as not, have them extend north and south. In this way, they will get an equal amount of sunlight.

Easter Morning.

AN ACROSTIC.

By Benjamin B. Keech.

Easter morning, bright and clear,
And the church bells far and near,
Sing their joyous songs of praise
To the fairest day of days;
Easter tide at length is here;—
Ring, ye bells of hope and cheer.

May the sweet, persistent ringing
Of the bells, set hearts to singing!
Ring them steadily and clear,—
Never was the day more dear;—
In the town and country bringing
News to set all hearts to singing,—
Goodly news of hope and cheer.

A cool, rich soil is always to be desired; but the sweet pea will deport itself properly in warm, gravelly ground, provided that enough water and mulch is given. But that is another story and will come later. It is usually best to sow all of your seeds together in one long, double row; the different varieties should be kept separate, unless you want them mixed. Sweet peas may often be arranged as a background for other plants; and wire netting, secured to a wooden frame is perhaps the most tasty and serviceable support.

The general rule is to dig a trench from eight to twelve inches deep and wide enough to accommodate two rows comfortably, each row about six inches from the other, all the length of the trench. If the soil is heavy, worn out or poorly drained, I should always follow the above method, substituting new, rich soil in place of the old; but where the ground is all that it ought to be, I should not think it necessary to dig so deep a trench. Merely spade the earth and make it mellow, leaving an excavation from three to six inches deep and wide enough for the two rows. Or, if you are a busy person, and haven't time to take pains, make a long, narrow furrow with your hoe, after the ground has been spaded and mellowed, and sow one row of seeds in it. This method will, not infrequently, give as good results as any other. The seeds should be sown quite thick so that you will be sure to have enough plants; scatter them about half an inch apart.

If they all come up, thin them out to at least one inch from each other. Of course, they may be more or less satisfactory if left unthinned; but really fine flowers cannot be had if the vines are allowed to grow too close together. Sometimes, when extra large blossoms are desired, the plants are thinned out to three inches apart. However, this seems a needless waste, both of plants and space; and if they are handled carefully, the young vines may be safely transplanted from one place to another. The empty packet, secured to a stick, will tell you where each kind is planted, which may be a desirable thing to know. Cover the seeds about one inch deep—more rather than less—and if necessary, put brush over the row, to prevent your neighbor's chickens from digging them up. At an early date, provide a support for the vines to clamber over; and as they begin their upward journey, fill in among them with fine, mellow soil, leaving it slightly hilled up on the outside of the trench.

Such plants as geraniums, roses, heliotropes and hydrangeas that have spent the winter down cellar may now be brought up to a cool, sunny window and started into growth. If you do not care to repot them, be sure to give a topdressing of rich earth; also, prune them more or less severely. Dead, broken or useless branches should be removed and the plants trimmed into as good a shape as possible. It will not harm geraniums to cut them back nearly to the roots. In fact, it will do them good, for new shoots will undoubtedly spring forth, and if properly trained, these will produce many fine blossoms later in the year. Gladioli will now be starting to grow, and it might be a good idea to set a few of them in a pan of mellow earth, placing this in a sunny window where it will not be warm enough to cause the tops to grow much before the roots have started. Clumps of dahlias may be divided and treated in about the same manner, although they often become spindling unless managed with care.

Gloxinias and tuberous begonias should be shaken from their pots, replanted in fresh, mellow soil and encouraged to grow. Give plenty of warm water and try to keep the air in the rooms as evenly warm as possible. After they get to growing, the plants should be kept cooler. If you have never grown the two "bulbs" named above it is to be hoped that you will do so this summer. Gloxinias, in velvety shades of red, white and blue are royally beautiful, while tuberous begonias are so entirely satisfactory that one cannot help but like them. One tuber should be planted in a four, five or six inch receptacle. Use good, rich mellow earth, and provide the best of drainage. Gloxinias may be propagated by taking leaves from the parent plant and rooting in water or moist sand. There is scarcely a more richly colored flower than the gloxinia.

Perhaps it is unnecessary for me to advise you to clean and improve your door yard. You know that you ought to do so, whether you undertake the work or not. If you can't do it yourself, hire some one; if you can't hire some one, do it yourself. Tin cans, old shoes and other litter are unattractive, to say the least, and stamp the owner of a yard as an untidy individual, even if he isn't. Plan to do something along the line of yard improvement, if only to rake up the leaves or remove last year's weeds. Perhaps you complain that you haven't a decent yard to begin with? In this case, it will never be any more decent until you exert yourself toward improving it. Then, after a beginning has been made, it will not be difficult to evolve the yard into an attractive spot, then a beautiful one.

After all of the spring's work has been conscientiously done, it is a good plan to take a holiday and go to the woods. At no other time in the year are the trees more interesting; and perhaps no flowers are quite so

(Continued on page twenty-three.)

Through Fields and Woodlands



By N. Hudson Moore

April.

The spring is dawning. Over all the trees
A veil of filmy green is lightly thrown;
There comes a whisper on the gentle breeze
That speaks of blossoms and of fields new sown.

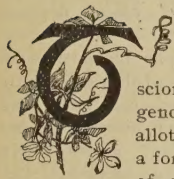
The weeping willows hanging o'er the stream,
Their golden pollen fling upon the air;
The plowboy with his strong and faithful team
Goes singing o'er the fields with ne'er a care.

He hears the bluebirds singing blithe and free,
The catbird scolds him as he passes by,
And everywhere in grass and bush and tree,
Is joyous life, for spring is drawing nigh.

And when his tasks are done, he wanders where
The first frail, sweet arbutus may be found,
And brushing off the last year's leaves with care,
He finds it nestling close against the ground.

He loiters slowly on the homeward way,
The stars look kindly on him from the height;
The last gleam of the swiftly dying day
Is hidden by the purple robe of night.

Selected.



THE PRESENT Spring comes onward with fleetest foot-steps, because she lingered so unconscionably long that with her best diligence she hardly retrieves half the allotted period of her reign. It is but a fortnight since I stood on the brink of our swollen river and beheld the accumulated ice of four frozen months go down the stream.—*Hawthorne, 1842.*

History, it is said, repeats itself, and judging from the foregoing quotation, Nature does also. Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote these words from the "Old Manse," at Concord, Massachusetts, over sixty years ago, yet it seems as if they could have been written of this very season. Yet though long delayed, Spring has come at last. From fence rail and low bush, from tree top and hedge row the chorus is swelling, every day bringing new performers, and causing the outpouring at dawn and dusk to become more rich and varied.

The robin is generally the first one to arrive, though I often find the song sparrow, here in Rochester, to be the advance agent of them all, and while his song may not have that fullness it takes on later in the season, it never seems so sweet and welcome as it does while the snow is on the ground, and the singer sits on a bare twig, his dusky feathers all aflutter. Next comes the bluebird, "lifting his light load of song" as the poet has it, and glorifying the early morning hours as does no other songster. His sweet sociability is another charm, for he will nearly always come half way to meet your advances. If you provide a box as a home for him, the chances are that he will gladly occupy it, always provided that the English sparrows do not get into it first. Somehow the bluebird, even with all its courage, is a timid creature where standing up for its own rights are concerned, and it will generally vacate its home in favor of any interloper. The only way to assist the gentle creature is to not only make the opening to the box very small, but not to put on any alighting board. The bluebird will dive right in, but the sparrow will generally perch before entering. A hole about the size of a silver half dollar is plenty large enough for an entrance.

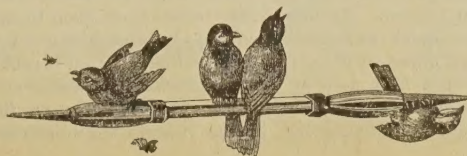
While in general the bird is an early nester I have known it to nest as late as June, and bring out a successful brood. It is in April however that this celestial visitor seems most lovely of coat and voice. The male bird is a very devoted mate, he is not only most solicitous in feeding the female when she is on the nest, but he takes his full share in caring for the little birds, coming at short intervals all day long with food, and helping to keep the nest in a perfectly clean condition, a great labor since the nest is usually a rather deep affair.

It always seems as if in April the wants of the human body might be subordinated, and that we might be able to give our whole time to the great-out-of-doors, and rejoice in the gifts of Nature, instead of being obliged to minister to carnal wants when it is so much more profitable to let the soul grow. Everything is stirring now, birds and bees, flowers and trees, the whole air is attune to melody of one kind or another, and dull is the spirit that does not enjoy it. A ramble in the woods is sure to reveal many beauties new to us, as well as to bring to light old friends, half forgotten since last year. The catkins of every variety present an interesting storehouse in which to study many creatures, crawling and winged. About the willow catkins buzz myriads of bees, they seem positively intoxicated with the sweet scent and quantity of pollen in which they roll themselves in an ecstasy of delight, and then fly off to the hive with full pollen baskets, remove their load, and then hurry back for more. Butterflies come too, seeming almost as glad as the bees at the treat spread before them; they hang with folded wings, head downward, almost motionless for many minutes at a time, and finally struggle away, as if it were almost too sweet a banquet to leave.

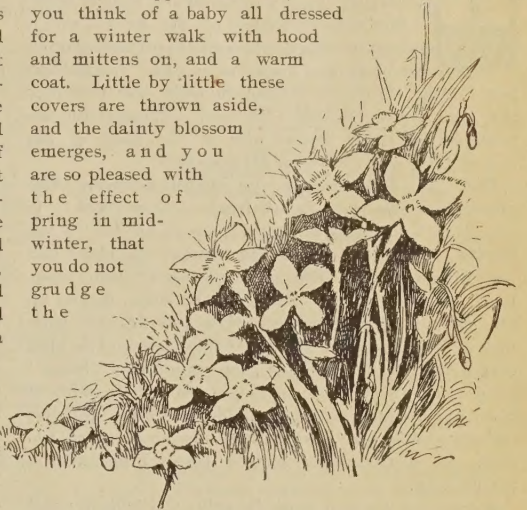
Nor does the ground at our feet seem less worthy of notice. "Every clod feels a stir of might, an instinct within that reaches and towers," and that reaches fulfillment in flowers and leaves. I was going to say that many of our very prettiest flowers are those that blossom in the early spring; most of them are scentless to be sure, but they seem to make up for this lack by putting on a mantle of extra purity and beauty.

So may of them are various shades of lavender and purple, that the whole month seems to reflect these colors. There is a little flower of very general distribution, which in delicate fashion reflects this color, and which is dear to every childish heart, and to many of us adults also, since the sight of its sweet blue face brings back to memory scenes and persons long since passed from our lives. This modest blossom has a variety of names, in New England it is known to children as Quaker Ladies, Bluets, and sometimes Innocence, and certainly its blue eye looks up at you the picture of simple sweetness. In New York state it is known as Quaker Bonnets, Venus' Pride, and half a dozen names beside. The name *Houstonia* was given to the plant in memory of Dr. Houston, a young English physician and botanist, who died in South America, in 1733, after an exhausting tramp about the Gulf of Mexico.

I have seen whole fields looking as if powdered with snow, so thickly did these tiny blossoms star the grass. Small as these flowers are, they are infinitely attractive to many insects, small bees and butterflies being the most numerous guests, and these seem to enjoy to the utmost the tiny drop of nectar which nestles in the bottom of each little cup. The common small meadow fritillary, with dark spotted wings is constantly to be found hovering over it, performing the useful office of carrying pollen from one plant to another and thus transmitting the species, and rendering abundant a plant we could ill do without in early spring. Like many an other showier blossom the little *Houstonia* bears two forms of flowers, one with the stamens elevated and one with them depressed. These two kinds of blossoms do not grow in the same patch, but each group of flowers produces its own kind of seed.



If you will allow this plant to recuperate for a while, and then in the Autumn take up a pot full, they will blossom very prettily for you in the winter. In fact it is a pity that people who love flowers do not take a little more pains and have wild flowers for winter pets. Numbers of them have such pretty ways of coming up, the leaves are so daintily curled, the buds appear so carefully wrapped that they make you think of a baby all dressed for a winter walk with hood and mittens on, and a warm coat. Little by little these covers are thrown aside, and the dainty blossom emerges, and you are so pleased with the effect of spring in mid-winter, that you do not grudge the



HOUSTONIA.

time it took to get them from the woods.

The Bluebird

When winter's cold tempests and snows are no more,
Green meadows and brown furrow'd fields re-appearing,
The fishermen hauling their shad to the shore,
A cloud-clearing geese to the lakes are a-steering;
When first the lone butterfly flits on the wing,
When red glow the maples, so fresh and so pleasing,
O then comes the bluebird, the herald of spring!
And hails with his warblings the charms of the season.

Alexander Wilson.

If this Paragraph is Marked

it will notify you that you are in arrears for the Magazine and you will find a bill enclosed showing the amount due us to date. It will be noticed that these bills are made out at our regular 50 cent rate, as our special rate of 25 cents is intended only for those who keep their subscriptions paid in advance. As this fact has not been well understood, we will extend your subscription **four years** from date to which it is now paid, if you will cut out this offer and send to us with **\$1.00 before May 25th** and in addition send you **absolutely free and postpaid** three of our **Famous Fisher Charcoal Art Prints** on our special American creme matboard suitable for framing, (these pictures alone would cost you \$1.00 each at any art store,) and also allow you a free guess in our Contest described on inside front cover. Give it a trial, you may win a valuable prize. We make you this special offer to induce you to send us your remittance at once. It costs us nearly \$2,000 a month to publish our Magazine and while the amount due us (as shown on enclosed bill) is small and may seem like an insignificant amount to you, it means a great deal to us. We shall continue to make improvements and we are confident that you will receive many times the value of your money. Will you not kindly send us your remittance by first mail? We assure you it will be appreciated.



The Hero of the Hour

By Julia M. Klinck

Winner of the First Prize in our recent Short Story Contest

Continued from the March number

THERE is among the cattle however one wild westerner, blocky of build and wide of horn, —the natural leader of the herd—which means mischief. The cow-boys have spotted him long ago for a "mean cuss" and dubbed him "Satan." His every movement if not promptly met and overborne sways the herd. Recognizing his qualifications Hollis had set him at the head of the first section, and for a time all goes well.

They are well through the sand-dunes now. The gravel-beds are left far behind. "Dry-Creek" is crossed and now they are coming up on the "Great Divide," a wide plateau lying between the Platte and Republican rivers. The proud King of the Grass-Lands scents danger. Suddenly he stops, throws up his head, sniffs, bellows and begins pawing and tearing up the ground with his terrible hoofs. The herd crowded in the rear sweep on, but immovably "Satan" keeps his place. The cowboys crack their quirts at him; fire at him a rattling fusilade of cowboy epithets; but his wicked eye warns them not to venture too near. So section after section passes him until the last goes by.

Seeing his prestige gone he sulks and bellows; and sinking on his knees stretches out his neck and lets his great dewlap sweep the ground. It is his challenge to battle. "Look out for brimstone and blue blazes!" yell the cow-boys, "Satan is on a tear!"

The herd miss their leader and are with difficulty prevented from turning back. Hollis like a good general is here, there and everywhere. Seeing trouble in that quarter he joins the attack upon Satan who with lowered horns and a savage eye is keeping the cow-boys at bay. He is mad now, crazed with rage. A jungle lion could not be a more formidable foe; but he must be met and conquered. Satan stands with his fore feet widely apart and braced as though no power could move him from his place. His head is held proudly aloft. His eyes flash fire. The men crowd on as closely as safety permits. Suddenly, without warning, Satan makes a dash at the nearest man. It is Hollis. A cool head and a steady hand are needed now if any earthly power can save him, for the ugly brute has caught the pony, "side on," with only an inch between to prevent that huge avalanche of weight from driving horn straight through him.

Nimble as an antelope the broncho gathers himself for flight. Those terrible horns are almost under him. A plum branch switches across Hollis' face. For a moment he is blinded. Chug, chug goes that savage head against the broncho's side. It is death to be caught on those horns. Not a man breathes. Hollis speaks to his broncho. "Git ap!" "Git ap!" His voice is just audible, but low and intense as it is the pony hears; he understands; he makes, in obedience, with every atom of his strength, one desperate leap. He clears the horns of the mad brute which pursues, quick as a flash straightens himself, and with not a hand's breadth between them they dash away down the long incline. Equally matched in speed it is a question of endurance now and—Hollis' life hangs in the balance.

The men gather rein and dash after; but the feet of their bronchos are not winged with fear and they can

only get near enough to see in the dust-reek that rises that Hollis is still unhurt.

Suddenly as he charged, he stops, that mad monarch of the plain. With a sweep of the horns he whirls round on the rear-guard and with a menace which they understand and respect bids them come no farther. Hollis shouts in stentorian tones for a section of the herd to be brought back and surround their enraged leader. Perhaps he may be taken thus by strategy. The men wheel and dash down the road to obey orders. Zip's sides are thumping hard. The race has winded him. Horse and rider are glad of a respite and wait at a respectful distance upon the defensive, knowing that hostilities may be renewed at any moment.

Suddenly around the shoulders of a sand dune but a few rods ahead, a carriage dashes advancing swiftly. Hollis recognizes its only occupant to be his rival, Fielding. He is driving at full speed all unconscious of the savage beast that blocks the way. Hollis' heart stands still. A human life is in danger; but it is his deadliest foe. How ruthlessly he would destroy the mad brute in his path who threatens to dismember him! Why save one who has trampled his heart in the dust, humiliated him; insulted him; robbed him of all his heart holds dear; wrested from him, love, hope, ambition and every fair prospect in life!

As by a flash-light all that he might recover by in-

turned, Hollis' broncho springs lightly to one side and undiverted the steer gives chase to the now flying carriage.

Hollis is close behind; but the rain of blows which he deals with his black snake only serves to accentuate the animal's rage. All too surely, he is gaining upon the carriage and—Ah! he trips ever so slightly; and Hollis seizing the opportunity rushes in and again belabors him with blows which blind and baffle him.

Thus Hollis battles every inch of the way, checking him here, dodging him there, out-witting and out-winding him, until the doctor's carriage has disappeared down a draw and he is safe once more.

Having mastered him Hollis now easily holds the sullen beast at bay until a section of the herd is brought back. The cattle circle around him and he is swept onward with the rank and file—a deposed monarch.

After almost superhuman exertions the cattle were safely loaded; the different sections of the long cattle train were duly locked, sealed and consigned, and Hollis more dead than alive flung himself on his broncho and galloped down to the inn. He was weary almost to exhaustion in body, mind and heart. The lines of his face were tense and drawn. The veins stood out upon his neck like knotted cords. His cheeks were wan and hollow. All of the old live alertness was gone. His eyes were sombre and sunken in their sockets and instead of the light of youth and hope there shone within them but the reflex of the spirit of renunciation and pathetic patience which possessed him.

No man could carry heavier heart nor braver face; but even his strong soul had not power to fling this trouble by, which sapped his strength. He had simply bent those Herculean shoulders to the life-long bearing of the cross of disappointment which Fate, it seemed, had prepared for them, and meant to bear it bravely.

Now as he arrayed himself for

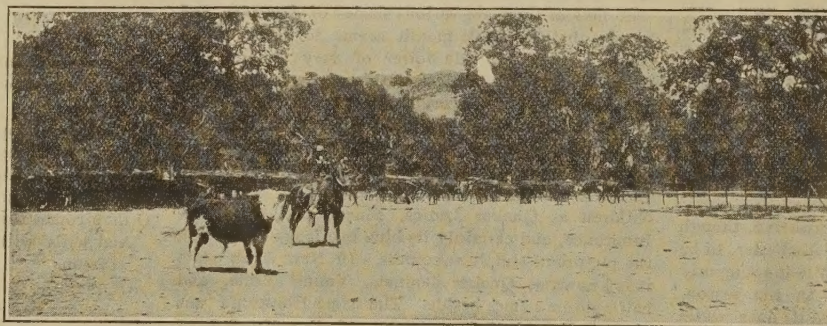
the long trip on the cattle train, he was summoning all his philosophy to the adjustment of it.

Having determined to shake the dust of that city off his feet forever, he requested the landlord to hold his possessions there until instructed where to send them. Then he set out to find a land office, and was just entering, for the purpose of putting his thousand acres of range on the market for whatever it might bring, when he met Dr. Fielding, whom he had last seen disappear down the draw. Now they met face to face. Not a word was spoken. There was no need. If ever face were eloquent with gratitude and frank affection that face was Fielding's.

With lips quivering with emotion his hand sought Keene's and their eyes met and tarried in a look long and intent. In that gaze each read the other's soul. All the jealousy and hatred and rage died out of Hollis' heart, and his eyes spoke to Fielding of peace and pardon and brotherly love, while his heart rose with a feeling of exaltation which was almost happiness, the sacred joy which every heart must feel, which sets the things of the spirit above the sentient things of earth.

As the two men parted Fielding crushed a letter into Keene's hand. One glanced sufficed to show the

(Continued on page twenty-eight)



"The Natural Leader of the Herd."

action; all the loss and suffering which would be his if this man's life were saved was revealed to him. He has only to stay his voice, his hand, for the infinitesimal part of a second and fate will avenge him, leaving his fair fame unstained.

Ah! it is a battle royal; but it is fought to a finish and settled in a breath.

With one swift bound of the heart which sends the live blood spinning through his veins "this world and the glory of it" has for him no more temptation for he is himself again. He rises in his stirrups—his whole frame dilating with fear lest he be too late—waves his sombrero and with all the strength of his mighty lungs shouts to Fielding to turn back—too late! The doctor heeds not if he hears the warning and unchecked speeds on. The mad brute frenzied now with fright and rage changes front and with hoof and horn and guttural bellow utters a sound which gives him pause. The horses are jerked backward upon their haunches snorting with fear before they can recover. The savage beast rushes down upon them; but quick as light Hollis dashes between him and the new object of his wrath, and yelling like an Apache strikes him with all his strength with the loaded end of the cattle whip between the eyes. It is but an instant's hindrance but in that instant the horses are

Resurrection in Nature

By Willanna Lee Hawk

"This is Resurrection Morn!"
Pipes the crocus from her bed,
Where through Winter's piercing storms,
She has mingled with the dead.

"This is Resurrection Morn!"
Smiles the violet from her nook,
Where, though often tempest torn
She blooms again beside the brook

"This is Resurrection Morn!"
Softly rustles through the trees,
"Wake, ye monarchs! day is born,
Don your robes of tender leaves."

"This is Resurrection Morn!"
Merrily the robins sing,
And the zephyrs soft and warm,
Waft a welcome to the Spring.

This is Resurrection Morn
In this world there is no death.
Life but takes another form,
When departs the fleeting breath.

This is Resurrection Morn!
Ring, ye bells of Easter cheer,
King a welcome: Spring is born!
Brightest season of the year.

All nature is rejoicing, glorious spring is come! A walk in the woods as the season progresses, fills one with clearer sense of the meaning of resurrection.

Early in March, in spite of the cold north wind, the tiny flower buds of the Whitlow grass have forced their way through the covering of dead leaves, and in the midst of an otherwise barren spot the pretty white starlike flowers make their appearance, an oasis of life in death's dreary desert, greeting one gladly at sight.

The tall gaunt trees, that have stood bare and cheerless during the winter, like grim sentinels over the grave of nature, are beginning to shoot forth graceful leaves of tender green, and fleet winged songsters flit about among the branches, trilling sweetly the joyous carols of the spring.

Turning a bend in the path, in a sheltered nook, with a southern exposure, a sweet blue Violet is discovered, nodding gayly to her companions, the Dandelion, bright as the sun itself—the delicate pink and white Spring Beauty and the snowy mouse eared Chickweed, all basking gratefully in the warm bright sunlight, while not far away the yellow Spice Bush and the Dead Nettle's beautiful hood-like blossoms of magenta red, lend color to the scene.

A rippling, gurgling sound entices one on to where the cool waters of a spring gush forth clear and sparkling. The surface of the miniature pool shines like a mirror, framed in rich dark green leaves of the beautiful Skunk Cabbage with its conical heads and peculiar flowers.

A step further on and the Bloodroots turn their bright faces to the sun, their milkwhite petals and golden eyes almost dazzling in their brightness the blue Liverwort trembles and shivers in the cool breeze and the young leaves of the May apple come trooping out of the ground like a crowd of merry school children with tiny parasols, bent on a pleasure day.

Wandering aimlessly along under the cloudless blue sky, drinking in the pure air, filled with awe at the wonderful transformation taking place on every hand, the rapid awakening from death to life, one's soul goes out in silent reverence and gratitude to the great Creator of all this beauty, for the many blessings His creatures are permitted to enjoy.

Turning one's footsteps homeward in a softened mood, walking slowly toward the busy town, nature in its wild beauty is left behind, but the cultivated gardens, where human skill has aided nature in perfecting her great work, greet the eye pleasantly on every side.

Blue, yellow and white Crocus are blooming gayly as if glad to greet the smiling sky after their long winter sleep, Scillas blue as the sky itself, nodding and waving gracefully in their beds attract one irresistibly to enthusiastic admiration of their beauty, tender little Snowdrops hang their modest heads and the Daffodils add their golden beauty to the scene.

Hyacinths, delicate and fragrant, Tulips, gaudy and proud, all contribute their share to beautify the surroundings and

gladden the eye. Everywhere is gladness, vigor and new life.

The gardens are regretfully passed and the florist's window next meets the view. There snowy Easter Lilies proudly exhibit their premature bloom, side by side with the tender beauty of the fragrant Alpine violets, rich in color and perfume.

Bright Azaleas and pretty Cinerarias are arranged to artistically display their various shades of blue, white, pink and red, against a striking background of graceful ferns and stately palms, with a skill known only to the experienced florist.

After enjoying such a rare treat, should not the heart swell with the gladness and cheer of the season?

With all the soul inspiring beauty and fragrance of a resurrected nature around about us, is there no awakening in ourselves of all that is noblest and best?

Happy is he who can read in nature's book the true meaning of resurrection, and who has not lost the power to enjoy the exaltation of soul, which the simplest beauties inspire in the pure of heart, and who is moved by a feeling of tender gratitude to the Author and Giver of all these things.

Doubly happy is he who with Wordsworth can say:

"And 'tis my faith, that every flower,
Enjoys the air it breathes."

Gathering Buttercups in Washington.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

For several days my little daughter has been coaxing me to take her to the woods to gather buttercups. Today was so lovely I could no longer resist her pleading, and so we went for the long promised ramble. The springtime is long delayed this year. The frost is still in the ground and there has been much rain of late. But we found the roads on

the prairie good, that is by picking our way we could keep out of the mud.

In the woods we had all kinds of bad roads to contend with, but that did not matter as we soon left the highway and struck boldly out for the nearest patch of Buttercups, and we soon found them. Not just a few half hidden blossoms but here, there, everywhere, singly and in groups by the dozen, the dearest little sunshiny flowers in the world. The stems are too short to pick so early in the season so we lifted the whole plants and collected moss to go with them. They will retain their beauty for a long time, and later we will transfer the plants to our garden where they will bloom next year.

We also found plants of *Lewisia rediviva*, *Erigeron Chrysoides* and *Sedum Douglasii* which we collected for our garden. Then as our pans were full of plants we left them and went to see what baby calls a dear little river. It is a beautiful brook—

"That comes but once a year, and stays
Through the brief round of April days.
Then, when its banks with bloom is bright
It seems to vanish in a night."

Already its banks were dotted with glittering Buttercups.

The water ripples over the greenest of moss and forms tiny cascades over mossy stones. How queer it is to see the moss so green now when the greater part of the year the brook is dry. For many long weeks the rocks are dry and brown and gray.

We turned to retrace our steps when a little voice murmured, "Mamma is it much farther to the place where the pussy willows grow?"

It was much farther so mamma had to rest awhile. We found a lichen covered stone on a sunny hillside and sat down to rest and listen to the birds who seemed as much delighted as we were with the springtime.

The meadow larks were singing in the tip top of the tallest pine trees. We saw several yellow hammers that seemed to be discussing the proper location for summer homes and comparing notes on the present supply of food. A pair of Juncos flew past us and were soon lost

from view in a gray grove as aspens.

We resumed our journey, often stopping to watch some live thing that attracted our attention, and once we could not resist the temptation of a game of snowball, when we came across a snow drift on the north side of a dense grove of young pines. Steeping back to gain a better position, and to assume a striking attitude I unfortunately trampled some Buttercups. Two blue eyes looked at me reproachfully, and all interest in snowballing as lost.

By and by we came across a willow bush covered with little furry pussies. As I had no knife it took me some time to break the tough branches, and all the while I was doing this some little birds were muttering te-de-ah-de-de.

Our return home was without incident except the exciting time we had hunting for our pans of plants.

Susan Tucker.

Springtime.

(A prize-winning poem in our late contest.)

Ye who are versed in the lore of the woodland
List to the wild bird that sings on the hill;
Tell me, ye man of the forest, yes, tell me,
What does he sing in that wild throbbing trill?

Ye who can list and interpret the songster,
Listen, and tell me the theme of his lay!
Is it the song of a heart that is breaking,
Or is it the song of a glorious day?

Ye who can tell me the theme of his singing,
Borne on the south wind that wafts to and fro;
Melody, mocking with sadness and gladness,
What is he singing so tender and low?

Listen, ye child of the towns and the cities,
Filled with the learning of people and books;
Listen, and hear what this wild bird is singing,
Singing of springtime and bright sparkling brooks.

Ye, who are filled with a longing for glory,
Look forth from your cities of factories and towers;
Hear him! ye man of the world and of riches!
Does he not sing of the warm April showers?

Ye man of the world, and ye man of the forest,
This is the theme of his gladness and praise,
"Springtime has come with its sunshine and gladness,
Springtime has come," is the theme of his lays.

Irmgard Geer.

We Offer \$1,000

For a Disease Germ That Liquozone Can't Kill.

On every bottle of Liquozone we publish an offer of \$1,000 for a disease germ that it cannot kill. We do that to convince you that Liquozone does as we claim.

Please note what that means. Any drug that kills germs is a poison, and it cannot be taken internally. Medicine is therefore, almost helpless in any germ disease. Liquozone alone can kill germs in the body without killing the tissues, too.

Acts Like Oxygen.

Liquozone is the result of a process which for more than 20 years, has been the constant subject of scientific and chemical research. Its virtues are derived solely from gas, made in large part from the best oxygen producers. By a process requiring immense apparatus and 14 days' time, these gases are made part of the liquid product.

The result is a product that does what oxygen does. Oxygen gas, as you know, is the very source of vitality, the most essential element of life. Liquozone is a vitalizing tonic with which no other known product can compare. But germs are vegetables; and Liquozone, which—like oxygen—is life to an animal, is deadly to vegetable matter.

We Paid \$100,000

For the American rights to Liquozone—the highest price ever paid for similar rights on any scientific discovery. We

did this after testing the product for two years, through physicians and hospitals, in this country and others.

That price was paid because Liquozone does what all the skill in the world cannot do without it. It does in germ diseases that which is impossible with drugs. It carries into the blood a harmless yet powerful germicide, to destroy at once and forever the cause of any germ disease. And no man knows another way to do it.

Liquozone is new in America, and millions who need it don't know of it. For that reason we are spending \$500,000 to give the first bottle free to each of a million sick ones.

Germ Diseases.

These are the known germ diseases. All that medicine can do for these troubles is to help Nature overcome the germs, and such results are indirect and uncertain. Liquozone kills the germs, wherever they are, and the results are inevitable. By destroying the cause of the trouble, it invariably ends the disease, and for ever.

Asthma
Abscess—Anemia
Bronchitis
Blood Poison
Bright's Disease
Bowel Troubles
Coughs—Colds
Consumption
Colic—Croup
Constipation
Catarrh—Cancer
Dysentery—Diarrhea
Dandruff—Dropsy

Hay Fever—Influenza
Kidney Diseases
La Grippe
Leucorrhea
Liver Troubles
Malaria—Neuralgia
Many Heart Troubles
Piles—Pneumonia
Pleurisy—Quinsy
Rheumatism
Skin Diseases
Scrofula—Syphilis
Stomach Troubles

Dyspepsia
Eczema—Erysipelas
Fever—Gall Stones
Goitre—Gout
Gonorrhea—Gleet

Throat Troubles
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Women's Diseases

All diseases that begin with fever—all inflammation—all catarrh—all contagious diseases—all the results of impure or poisonous blood.

In nervous debility Liquozone acts as a vitalizer, accomplishing what no drugs can do.

50c. Bottle Free.

If you need Liquozone, and have never tried it, please send us this coupon. We will then mail you an order on your local druggists for a full-size bottle, and we will pay your druggist ourselves for it. This is our free gift, made to convince you; to show you what Liquozone is, and what it can do. In justice to yourself, please accept it to-day, for it places you under no obligation whatever.

Liquozone costs 50c. and \$1.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON

for this offer may not appear again. Fill out the blanks and mail it to the Liquid Ozone Co., 458-460 Wabash Ave., Chicago.

My disease is.....
I have never tried Liquozone, but if you will supply me a 50c. bottle free I will take it.

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N 107 Give full address—write plainly.

Any physician or hospital not yet using Liquozone will be gladly supplied for a test.

For the Children

William's April Fool

By Marian Perrin Burton

Winner of the Fourth Prize in Our Recent Contest.

"Gramma, tell me a story."
"A story, little man? What about?"
"Oh I dunno gramma. I guess about when papa was a little boy like me. A real brand new story that I never heard before."

"Yes dear I know hundreds of stories that I haven't told you yet about your papa, when he was a baby and when he was a very little boy, and when he was a big six year old boy like you, and bigger and bigger until he got to be a man. Climb up on gramma's knee." Oh, what a soft place it was! That gramma of Williams was such a nice warm thick one! "There, that's all cozy. Let me see, what day is this; do you know?"

"Huh! Yes I guess I do! This is April Fool. You can't fool me neither, gramma. They isn't a person in this town smart enough to fool me!"

"Yes William, I know all about that. Your papa said that very thing himself one April Fool's day. He was a nice little boy, very much like you, with white hair and brown eyes; only he didn't wear a blue sailor suit with red eagles and white stars; he had a cute little round jacket which gramma herself made for him out of a grey blanket. It had white buttons on it, and red braid, and he thought it was pretty fine. Well, April Fool's day morning he came into the kitchen blowing his fingers and dancing to keep his toes warm because there wasn't any fire in his room."

"Was there a coal strike?"
"No, dear, we didn't have any coal in those days nor any furnaces nor any stoves, excepting the big oven in the kitchen and a great fire place in the diningroom where we burned logs as big as you are. And your papa had to go out doors to the spring to wash his face, and often he had to break the ice before he could get any water."

"Is that about April Fool?"
"Yes, I am coming to that. Your papa came shivering into the room and he said to your grandpa—that was his father, you know—'Say, daddy—that is what he called him always—'Say daddy, the ice is more'n a mile and a half thick on the spring this morning.'"

"No, said your grandpa, 'you don't tell me!'"
"April Fool" said your papa. And of course everybody laughed at daddy for getting caught so early in the morning, and oh, but your papa was happy to think he had been so smart. Then he got proud as a peacock and strutted around in a most boastful way, just like another little boy just about his age, and said: "They isn't a person in this house smart enough to fool me."

Gramma stopped to smile and pat William's cheek. "This is a good one. Go on gramma, what next?" he cried impatiently.

"Well, your grandpa told your papa to pull his chair up to the table and have some breakfast, and he handed him a plate with a beautiful golden-brown flap-jack on it. Your papa's mouth just watered to see it, and he spread it all over with butter and poured some thick yellow syrup over it and started to cut it into nice little squares as he always did; but the knife wouldn't cut."

"Dull old knife!" said your papa. Then everybody at the table laughed, and your grandpa said: "April Fool, my son," and your papa pulled his fork out of the pancake and a big string of cotton was sticking to it. The whole cake was made of cotton dipped in batter and fried. And when he got down from the table the family all laughed again, for tied to one of the white buttons on the tail of his jacket was a big white card and on it was written 'Nobody in this house can fool me!'"

"Huh! Their old flap-jack joke wasn't half so good as his fool about the mile and a half of ice! You can't get ahead of my papa even when he's a little boy. Oh, gramma, look out the window and see the fire crackers!"

Gramma craned her neck eagerly.

"April Fool. O, gramma but you are easy! Did you think it was the Fourth of July?" And the small boy in a navy blue sailor suit slipped down from gramma's knee and marched his sturdy little legs out of the room, seeking some one a little smarter than grandmothers to associate with.

In the hall he buttoned himself into his pea jacket, pulled his toboggan cap tightly over his ears and started in search of the Hodge twins and Mary Downs. The Hodge twins, David and Jonathan, were great in William's eyes simply because they were twins and looked so much alike that the teacher always had to punish both when one of them did wrong—and as for Mary Downs, she never made fun of a fellow, she never told on a fellow and she never whimpered.

"Hello William!" said David, "Want a piece of candy? M' father brought it from New York." Oh, such big chocolate drops! William couldn't resist them. And since he had only been offered one, he had to take the biggest.

"Thanks, Dave; you are a peach!" William turned his candy over and over. What a bouncer! It must be a marshmallow dipped in chocolate; just his favorite. He debated whether to eat it in twenty nibbles or in one big gobble. The big gobble got the most votes and he popped the whole thing into his small red mouth and gave it four chews without stopping. Then! Oh, what a sputter, what a groan, what a shudder and hiss. It was made of soft putty, seasoned with soap.

"April Fool," cried David and Jonathan in a breath.

"Oh I knew it all the time," said William, still spitting. The twins didn't believe him, but just laughed big "ho, ho, hos!"

William was glad that the Hodge twins hadn't heard him tell gramma that nobody in town was smart enough to fool him; and he looked over his shoulder to see if there was a tag on his back like the one on his papa's when he was a little boy. But there weren't any buttons on his pea-jacket to fasten tags to, nor on his sailor blouse either, so he felt pretty safe. The Hodge twins asked him if he thought the moon was made of green cheese. He said that gramma told him it was made of cold sunshine. Then they both laughed and said "April Fool" again; and Mary Downs squeezed his hand and said:

"I know it's made of sunshine William, because it made a great big shadow of me last night."

The Hodge twins looked at William disdainfully. "Isn't he easy?" said David. "Dead easy," said Jonathan. It was just what William had said about his grandpa. Suddenly the twins changed their tone and said:

"Come on over to our house in a minute."

"Yes, we'll show you a daisy trick."

William said "All right," and they ran off. A minute is a long time for a little boy to wait, but he patiently counted ten six times, then started around the corner. The first thing he saw was David's pocket book, the big, flat black one he got for Christmas, lying on the sidewalk. He stooped quickly to pick it up, but in a mysterious way it was jerked from under his hand, and David and Jonathan cried out in a breath.

"April Fool! That is the trick we were going to show you, William."

"Tell me how you do it, fellows," said William.

"Well, you take your pocketbook, (your mother's will do just as well) and you tie a strong string to it, like this. Then you put the pocketbook on the sidewalk and take hold of the other end of the string and hide behind a tree and when an easy mark like you comes along and tries to pick it up, you yank it away and shout 'April Fool!'"

"I'm going home and try it," said William. "Come on, Mary."

It wasn't until William got home that he remembered that he didn't have any pocketbook. He knew better than to take his mother's. There was nothing left but his iron bank. He had been saving pennies in that ever since he was a baby, and that was ever so long ago. His papa had opened the bank with a small iron key only last week and counted nine dollars and fifty-three cents. When he got ten dollars, he was going to put it into a great big iron bank down town. Mary thought his little iron bank would do just as well as a pocket book.

So they carried it down to the front yard, tied a green cord around it, put it in good plain sight in the middle of the sidewalk and crouched down behind the low hedge awaiting a victim. They clucked the green string tightly and spoke in whispers. They felt exactly like bandits. Suddenly they saw someone coming down the street. They grasped the string more firmly and ducked their heads.

"It's a man," said William.
"A horrid big dirty man," said Mary.
"I guess he's a tramp," said William.
"I guess he's a robber," whispered Mary.

"See, he is looking at it!"—
The man stopped a moment. He was certainly a very dirty man with very dirty clothes. He looked at the iron bank and the green string and the two youngsters crouching behind the low hedge. Then he laughed out loud and said:

"Luck is coming my way again. April Fool, babies;" and he bent down and took hold of the little green string with both hands and broke it, and, picking up the bank tucked it under his arm and walked rapidly down the street.

William and Mary cried out—"April Fool, mister, April Fool!" But he only walked the faster. They got up and ran after him as fast as their chubby legs could carry them crying "April Fool—April Fool," but he dodged around the corner and when they got there he was out of sight.

William had a hard struggle to keep the tears back when he fully realized that his money was gone. But he wouldn't let Mary see him cry! So he snuffed a few times and winked a few times and swallowed hard. Then he cleared his throat and said:

"I'll tell you what, about that man, Mary."

"What?"
"He's a lunytic I believe. He doesn't even know an April Fool when he sees it right under his nose."

"Yes sir," said Mary, "He's a lunytic and a robber. That was a narrow 'scape for us, William; if it hadn't been for the bank he would have stolen us."

"Yep, that's so. That bank just saved our lives. Let's tell David and Jonathan. They never had such a 'scape.'"

"I'm going home first and tell papa, so he can set the perlice on him," said Mary.

"And I'm going to tell gramma so she can get me a new bank."

William kept a stiff upper lip until he had said good bye to Mary, then he ran home, with the tears making clean little tracks down his cheeks. Gramma knew there was trouble as soon as she saw him, so she took him up in her soft warm arms and he sobbed out his story.

"And so you think the bank saved your lives?"

"Yes I know it gramma. Do you think our two lives, taken together, are worth nine dollars and fifty-three cents?"

"Well, yes, I should say so, dear."

"Then I am going to collect half of it from Mr. Downs. And say, gramma, that big lunytic robber didn't know an April Fool when he saw it."

"I think he did, dear," said gramma. And William wondered what she meant.

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If fortune, with a smiling face,

Strew roses on our way,

When shall we stoop to pick them up?

Today, my friend, today!

But should she frown with face of care,

And talk of coming sorrow,

When shall we grieve, if grieve we must?

Tomorrow, friend, tomorrow!

Mackay.

One Housekeeper's Way.

(Winner of third prize in our late contest.)

After twenty years' residence in the West, Mrs. Brown had come East to visit her old schoolmate. "Such a time as I had getting ready to come!" she said. "You see I've been away from home so little that the whole family has come to be dependent upon me, and to look to me for everything."

"Although the weather was still mild when I left, I knew that it might turn cold any day and then the winter clothing would be needed. Of course, no one would be able to find anything without me, so I spent a day looking up warm gloves, overcoats, caps, mittens, leggings and warm underclothing. I had lots of trouble over it, especially as I had forgotten where I'd put about half of the things and I didn't know how to spare the time to look them up. But I suppose that has to be the way when one person looks after everything."

A few days afterward, her hostess was suddenly taken very ill and, as the children were all young and there was no one else to do it, she assumed the management of the household.

"How shall I ever be able to find things?" she said to herself, realizing that the sick one must not be disturbed by having to answer questions. But when she went up to bed that night with the eight-year old daughter, the little girl said, "Mamma has everything written down so she can tell in a minute just where to find things. See?" She opened her closet door and pointed to a paper tacked on the inside, on which was a list of all the articles contained in the neat packages on the shelves. Looking more closely, she saw that each of these packages was labeled, so that one could tell what were the contents without opening them.

"Most of these are my things and Anna's," said the child. "Arthur's and Ned's are in their closet, and there are all sort of things in the hall closet. I'll show you."

She led the way to a large, roomy closet, with well-filled shelves and also several trunks on each of which was a paper with a list of its contents. By glancing at these, the visitor saw at once just where she could find whatever might be needed—extra bedding, rolls of flannel, linen, hot water bottle, various simple remedies and many other things too numerous to specify.

"Mamma has often told me to remember about these papers in case she should ever be sick," said the little maiden, "so I thought I'd show you right away."

Many were the times in the anxious week that followed when Mrs. Brown gave thanks for the perfect order and system which characterized the household of which she had so unexpectedly been called to take charge. When at last the convalescent was able to talk and could thank her friend for all she had done, she added: "I'm afraid you've had a very hard time, for I'm sure it can't be easy to take up another's housekeeping."

"That all depends upon the household," was the laughing response. "I found yours so well ordered that it was no trouble at all, compared to what it would have been in some. I must say I'm thankful enough that the case wasn't reversed, for if you had had to take charge of my household in the same unexpected way, you wouldn't have found

it quite so easy, I know. However, I've learned a great many things during this experience, and I can assure you that, after this, it's going to be possible to find any article in my house at a moment's notice, just as it is in yours. It may take a little more time when putting things away, but when I think of the hours I've spent in undoing the wrong packages and doing them up again, I realize what an immense saving of time your method is!"

By Martha Clark Rankin.

Annual Cleaning of the Bedrooms.

(A prize article in our late contest.)

If you are unfortunate enough to have carpets on your bedroom floor, make it a rule to take them up once a year. The condition of the floor under it, if it be cheap carpet, will usually cause the cleanly housewife to hold up her hands in horror. Sand, dust, and soot decorate the floor.

In cleaning a bed-room always begin with the bed. Take it down and if possible have the mattress sent to a cleaner. It will be done more satisfactorily by him than at home. Wash all blankets and bed-quilts, have pillows aired and cleaned and clean the springs carefully. If the room and bed are troubled with vermin they should be attended to without delay. And in case the walls are papered, vigilance must be doubled.

To rid a room of these pests, clean the woodwork thoroughly, using a weak solution of tea in warm water and a soft flannel cloth. Dry with a clean flannel cloth. Set in the middle of the room a dish containing four ounces of brimstone. Light it and close the room as tightly as possible, stuffing the keyhole and the cracks in the window with paper in order to keep the fumes inside. Let it remain for three or four hours at the end of which time open the windows and air thoroughly. If the bugs are only in the beds and not very thick they can be destroyed by pouring small quantities of kerosene in the cracks. When the carpets are taken up clean the floors with soap and hot water first and then a weak solution of chloride of lime. The woodwork should be washed with weakened tea.

Wash the windows with soap and warm water, drying with old newspapers. Clean mirrors in the same way. All furniture should be washed with the solution of weak tea and warm water. This will not injure the polish if it is immediately rubbed dry with soft flannel cloths.

In cleaning bedroom closets, every particle of clothing should be taken out, brushed and aired and the closet cleaned in the same manner as the room before they are put back again. After the room has been aired and scrubbed put the carpet back. When the carpet is relaid, the room and furniture are supposed to be clean. There remains only to remove small spots on the carpet made by soot and grease. To remove these, rub on a small quantity of hard soap and scrub it out with a brush dipped in cold water. Each spot should be rubbed dry with another cloth as soon as it is washed.

After each part of the carpet is cleansed have ready a pail of clean cold water, with enough sulphuric acid or vinegar to make it taste sour. Rub this well over the spot, just cleansed, with a clean sponge. Allow the room to have sunshine, and air and a warm fire if possible, to dry the carpet.

H. C. M.

Comforts of a Gas Stove.

By the Fire Maker.

(A prize article in our late contest.)

My wife and I have been partners in housekeeping for nigh on to twenty-five years,—and yet, we are not so very old—at least she isn't. We both work in the kitchen—more or less—for there is always

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By Victoria Wellman

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NOTE:—Letters requesting private reply should be addressed to Victoria Wellman, care of Vick's Family Magazine, Rochester, N. Y. All letters accompanied by a stamp will receive reply in due order.

Baby Faces.

(Prize poem in our late contest.)

Happy little baby faces,
How they fill us with delight;
With the sunshine of their smiling
All the world turns wondrous bright;
Easily they banish sorrow,
Fill our hearts with mirth and glee,
For these happy little darlings
Angel messengers will be.

For they bring to earth God's sunshine,
In the mission of their love,
And they innocently lead us
To our Father up above.
Loving hearts are drawn together
By sweet childhood's precious bond,
Loving so the little darlings
Tender, hearts become, and fond.

Life will blossom into sunshine
Neath the little baby smiles,
And the sunshine in their dimples
Every loving heart beguiles.
And we try to make the baby
Know but joy and sweet delight,
As we joyously are basking
Neath its smiles, so wondrous bright.
Martha Shepard Lippincott.

Busy Mothers.

She had read the magazines loaned her by a near neighbor and felt less able than before to see aught but limitations and set boundaries to her life. Clouds, which she dimly realized were composed of the results of overwork and not, in truth, of moral and mental difficulties, hung over her spirit as she sat darning on that endless pile of hose. How could other women elevate their minds above such tasks to thoughts of beauty, to dreams of love. How could any mother of six active children ever really be free to "live with" her children, even if the theory of Froebel and other great thinkers touched hidden chords in her heart into momentary music, unless that mother could be free from a part of the necessary duties which the preparing three daily meals, the cleaning of a goodly sized house, the sewing and mending, washing, ironing, and nurse care for a family. Her soul yearned for these better things as agencies to improve the home, which, in her earnest eyes, was a real mission. So her answer to the neighbor's request that she join in a club for self improvement by means of magazines and books, was sad and firmly resigned. "No, it is useless for me, just because I have no time. Mothers ought to have such culture before the large family arrives for 'tis a pity to realize as I do that afterward is too late."

"Cheer up, my dear," blithely answered the neighbor and friend. "Your sensitive heart is pressing thorns into you, and you suffer from undervaluing yourself and your efforts for culture of all kinds. Because your heart would gladly do more if it could, you fail to set any value on what you are doing. Why, even as a worker, what is the money value of your services? To learn this just do a little figuring and suppose your John had to hire every bit of the housework, etc., done by one who could and would do as well as you do. Next, what is your value as a home teacher? Who teaches your children 'manners' and the ordinary cleanliness at table, in dress, etc.? As a nurse how much expense you have saved John by thoughtful self-control and simple remedies.

More, my dear, your own mind has set you doing, as well as theorizing, to train boys for husbands and girls for wives. You do endless little deeds to make them love home as a pleasant place, you have made John the man he now is—really,

my dear, you have a self-improvement club already. Now if you will expect more of your family and by their aid get even half an hour each day to steal away for silent thought or reading these helpful books and insist on a little relaxation with your family on Sundays the charm will work because you have been working along these lines."

Hope lit the tired face grown weary-lined from too much devotion and love of others, for excess in this is as grave a mistake as is coldness, stern and repulsive tyranny, or nagging.

Laugh a Little Bit.

Here's a motto, just your fit;
"Laugh a little bit."
When you think you're trouble-hit,
"Laugh a little bit."
Look misfortune in the face,
Brave the bedlam's rude grimace;
Ten to one 'twill yield its place
If you have the wit and grit
Just to laugh a little bit.

Cherish this peculiar gift;
"Laugh a little bit."
Keep it with you, sample it—
"Laugh a little bit."
Little ills will sure betide you,
Fortune may not sit beside you.
Men may mock and fame deride you,
But you'll mind them not a whit
If you laugh a little bit.

Tokology.

"What is Tokology?" women often ask on seeing this familiar name in some magazine. The apt answer has been given that it is 'a woman's bible'—but as this statement confuses some who have never had a chance to examine its pages,

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conveying an idea that it is a religious work only, it is wise to explain that its religious teachings are purely physical; for to live such a life as it advises to secure "Painless Childbirth" also secures a feeling of healthy happiness supremely beneficial to the unborn and "marking" its very nature for good, while the mother exults in a new power of endurance of evils which before seemed spiritually and mentally intolerable. Thus, as the physical life so assists or hinders the soul it may truly be said, "Tokology is a Woman's Bible."

Moreover it is peculiarly a book of reference and Dr. Alice Stockham's womanly sympathies as well as her deep knowledge and wide experience have caused her to include in its pages the very matter in which new made mothers need advice, such as children's diseases, and also the practical helps needed by young girls, and by women near the critical change of middle life. Its theories have actually emancipated many mothers from pain and won their intense gratitude by more lasting benefits to the unborn, to need further indorsement as to "safety," or *probability of results*, or being "worth the price." Were American mothers asked "Is Tokology worth having?" a veritable chorus of eager affirmation would arise.

Many grand good books are now obtainable dealing with such themes, but every home library has made a good beginning in such knowledge when Tokology is included as the root of that sex knowledge which alone can insure a happy, healthy family.

Young Mothers.

Dainty trifles for "that blessed baby" are always prized and often kept as souvenirs. Chief among these we may put the baby record booklets which are so "sweet" yet so sensible and can be obtained in sums large or small. One of these is the Baby Record put out by the Wood-Allen concern and the covers come in different colors to agree with the mother's taste or child's sex, while the illustrations are so fine that one wonders at the low cost.

A dainty pair of silk booties, a little bed blanket or "comfort," an embroidered bib or drawnwork yoke for a tiny dress, or a set of link buttons in gold or silver, these are mere suggestions to those who would give a suitable gift. Another solid gift is one of the few good name books now published to assist in the solemn process of naming the baby.

Mother's Scrapbook.

For children with scanty locks rub thoroughly some pure vaseline into the scalp itself; use this weekly. For washing the head use the best tar soap obtainable—and to the initiated that means but one famous brand. This need not be wholly rinsed out as the lather increases the silky growth. In bad cases of dandruff first apply yolk of egg.

Few laxatives operate better than rhubarb, either powdered or in syrup, and cascara sagrada. Either works with out griping and should be used to cut a cold short when beginning.

When feverish give your children such mild laxatives and some hot sage tea. Most cases will be relieved by morning.

Our Prize Contests.

We have reviewed all of the estimates of the line counting contest and have awarded the prizes. There were a large number who came so near the correct number of lines as to come in for a share of the prize money. It was necessary for us to divide the prizes in accordance with the terms stated in our advertisement and some, either from a misunderstanding of the advertisement or from selfish motives have written us very disrespectful letters, a few even going so far as to intimate that we were "fakes." James Vick, the founder of this magazine and one of the noblest men that ever lived, would "rise from his grave" at such an accusation and as we are endeavoring, to the best of our ability, to conduct the magazine on the same honorable lines we cannot sit idly by and allow anyone to attack the honorable name of Vick in any such manner. We aim to do just as we agree and thousands of our readers will testify that we are doing it. Those who did not win prizes or who were obliged to divide with others surely have no cause to complain. It is refreshing to turn from these few fault finders to the large number who write appreciative, encouraging letters like the following from Iowa.

"I received your notice of my good luck and thank you for the same. The magazine grows better all the time. "K. E. H., Odebolt, Ia. "Many thanks for my prize—"J. S. M., Postville, Ia."

It is impossible to give all the names of the winners here but if any who entered the contest has not heard from us they can understand that they were not prize winners as we have written letters to all who did win prizes.

Our New Contest

Is much more popular than the first one; answers to it are coming in thick and fast. The weekly prize feature gives everyone an extra chance to win a prize. Parents should encourage their children to enter this educational contest, it will help them to remember the faces of these great men, but tell them not to be too sure they are right, the first time they look at the picture; they should study it and make sure that they are right, before sending in the names. In case you are not sure of one or more of the pictures, get one or more friends to subscribe and we will allow you one guess for each subscription you obtain. Some have sent guesses on this contest without the money for a subscription stating that they were already subscribers but this is not in accordance with our terms, the subscription must come with the guess and if you are already on our list we will advance your subscription one year.

Our Free Book Offer.

Everyone who grows flowers or a garden should have one or both of the books which we advertise on the page twenty-five of this issue. You can get them both free by sending ten cents to cover cost of mailing, when you send your subscription. These are reliable books and just what you want. Send for them today and get the benefit of them in your garden this year. Tell your friends about the liberal offers we are making and ask them to send their subscriptions with yours.

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Home Dressmaking HINTS BY MAY MANTON.

Girl's Apron 4504.



Aprons are regarded as necessities by wise and careful mothers and should be included in every little girl's wardrobe. This one is pretty and becoming as well as useful and can be worn over the frock or with the guimpe only as may be preferred. The model is made of lawn with trimming of embroidery, but gingham and all apron materials are equally appropriate.

The apron is made with the body portion and the skirt. The body is shaped by means of shoulder and under-arm seams and is joined to a shallow yoke over which falls the square bertha. The skirt is simply straight and full and is joined to the belt which connects it with the waist.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 3 yards 32 inches wide, with 2½ yards of insertion to trim as illustrated.

The pattern 4504 is cut in sizes for girls of 4, 6 and 8 years of age.

Waist with Bertha that may be Pointed, Scalloped or Plain. 4574.



TO BE MADE WITH LONG OR ELBOW SLEEVES, HIGH OR LOW NECK.

Broad shoulders that give sloping lines are requisite to correct style and all bertha effects are, consequently, much in vogue. This very charming and graceful waist combines one of the newest with a full bodice and ample puffed sleeves that can be made in either elbow or full length. The model is made of white crepe meteor with yoke and trimming of heavy cream lace, and soft full belt of liberty satin; but all the pretty soft silks and wools of fashion are appropriate and color and trimming can be varied again and again. The pointed bertha is smart and new, but the edge can be scalloped or left plain when preferred. The elbow sleeves are much worn, but deep cuffs, making them full length, can be added and, when desired, the neck can be cut out just above the bertha giving a round effect that is most charming.

The waist consists of a smoothly fitted lining, which is faced to form the yoke, the front and backs. These last are gathered at upper and lower edges and are arranged over the foundation, the two closing separately at the centre back. The bertha is circular and serves to outline the yoke. At the neck is a regulation stock collar. The full sleeves are mounted over fitted linings, that are cut full length and faced when they are desired long. The belt is wide, slightly curved, and is shirred at the front edges.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 5¼ yards 21 inches wide, 4½ yards 27 wide or 3¾ yards 44 inches wide, with 1½ yards of all-over lace; 3 yards of applique and ½ yard 21 inches wide for belt to make as illustrated.

The pattern 4574 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

Woman's Wrapper 4511.



Tasteful morning gowns are among the possessions which no woman should be without. This one is eminently graceful and becoming at the same time that it is simple and involves neither excessive labor nor expense. The model is shown in blue cashmere with trimming of Arab colored lace and is exceedingly effective, but all materials used for house gowns are equally appropriate.

The wrapper consists of the fronts, backs and under-arm gores. The back is arranged in the Watteau plait that always is satisfactory. The fronts are loose and are finished with the frill which is extended from the big collar and passes down the entire front. The sleeves are full and finished with frills of the material. At the waist is a ribbon which confines the fulness sufficiently for neatness, but this can be omitted when a looser adjustment is desired.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 8¾ yards 27 inches wide, 8 yards 32 inches wide or 3¾ yards 44 inches wide, with 15½ yards of insertion to trim as illustrated.

The pattern 4511 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

Morning Gown 4553.



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Morning gowns are among the necessities of life and should be included in every wardrobe. This tasteful one is eminently simple at the same time that it is becoming and graceful and can be made from a variety of materials. In the case of the original, however, the fabric is a figured challie in blue and black and the trimming bands of black velvet ribbon. The cape collar, with its frill which falls over the shoulders, is peculiarly effective and gives the drooping shoulder lines which are characteristic of the season.

The gown consists of the fronts, back and under-arm gores and is finished at its lower edge with a gathered flounce. The fronts are simply full and plain but the back is gathered and drawn in at the waist line where it is held in place by the belt. The sleeves are wide below the elbows, narrower above, and are finished with pointed cuffs. The cape is arranged over the neck which is finished with a simple turn over collar.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 12 yards 27 inches wide, 11 yards 32 inches wide or 7 yards 44 inches wide.

The pattern 4553 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

For Dancing School and Party Wear.



DESIGN BY MAY MANTON.

Embroidered veillings, in silk and wool, make charming frocks for young girls and are peculiarly well adapted to the fashionable shirtings. This very pretty one is pale blue in color and is trimmed with deep cream colored lace. The dress is eminently graceful and can be made either low neck with elbow sleeves or high neck with long sleeves as preferred. A May Manton pattern of above waist No. 4512, sizes 12 to 16 years, or skirt No. 4510, sizes 12 to 16 years, will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of 10c. for each.

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For a short time we will mail these patterns to any address for only 10 cents each or three for 25 cents. The regular retail prices range from 25 to 40 cents. The patterns are all of the latest New York modes and are unequalled for style, accuracy of fit, simplicity and economy. With each is given full descriptions and directions—quantity of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

We can also furnish any of the patterns illustrated in the last Five issues of Vick's Family Magazine. VICK PUBLISHING CO., Rochester, N. Y.

The Fisher Charcoal Art Prints are going like wild fire. Don't fail to add 6 cents for postage and packing when you send your subscription and receive one of these beautiful works of art, or 10 cents for two. These Art Prints would cost you at least \$1.00 each at any Art store. We can furnish them at 25 cents each or three for 50c. They are printed on AMERICAN CREME MAT board, 12 1/2 x 17 1/4 inches and are elegant for framing.

Our Clubbing Offer With The Housekeeper of Minneapolis.

NOTICE that 60 cents pays for the Housekeeper and Vick's Family Magazine for one year. This is a proposition that should not be overlooked by our readers. Remember that our offer is to send you the Housekeeper for one year and Vick's Family Magazine for one year, all for 60 cents, price of Housekeeper alone.

New Dresses from Old Ones.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

'The happiest woman is the one who makes the best of everything instead of brooding over the condition of the pocket-book. If the furniture is not as fine as she likes she keeps it in the best condition, giving everything a cozy homelike appearance. Her wardrobe is not as fine as that of her wealthier neighbor but she takes good care of what she has, making her old dresses over as long as any good material remains in them. There is no reason why a woman of small means should neglect her personal appearance, nor can she afford to do so, for a little effort will often enable her to be neatly and stylishly dressed.

You will usually find in your wardrobe a number of skirts that are quite good, although the waists are worn too badly to use again. Give them a thorough cleaning and pressing and put a new binding or facing around the bottom if necessary. A remnant of new goods that harmonizes in color with the skirt may be used for a waist, for this is another season of separate waists. Skirts that are faded or badly soiled should be taken apart and washed, dyed some pretty dark color or black with diamond dye, then pressed and made over. When the skirt is too short or worn around the bottom, lengthen it by putting a yoke at the top, or piece out each gore at the bottom and cover the seams with braid or a band of silk. Many changes will suggest themselves when you begin work, that will improve the looks of the dresses and make them wear much longer. If you do not make them yourself, the most economical plan is to hire a dressmaker to come to your house and sew for a week or two. But have everything ready before she comes, so there will be no time lost in waiting for lining, stays, or anything needed. Most women enjoy a "made-over" gown, and when the work is neatly done, the effect is as good as if the materials were all new.

The hat should be in keeping with the dress and jacket. Before a new one is purchased, it should be viewed from the side and back as well as the front, for the finest hat is never satisfactory unless it is becoming. Good trimmings may be used several times and will always look well, hence it pays to get those of a good quality. Ostrich plumes may be recurred by drawing each part between the thumb and back of a knife. Ribbons can be washed and rinsed, then wound smoothly around a tall round bottle that is filled with hot water. A package of diamond dye will make a pile of faded ribbons pretty and useful again. When dry, use the best pieces for long loops. Almost every one has learned the art of raising the pile of crushed velvet by dampening the back and pressing it upon a warm iron, turned with the face uppermost. A little practice will enable the home milliner to obtain excellent results and save many dollars.

Elsie Gray.

The Suitably-Dressed Girl.

Much has been said and written lately in regard to the inappropriate dressing of girls who are obliged to go out every day and earn their living. The more enduring type of garment, the long cloth coat, the plain hat, and the neat neck adornment, is nowadays affected by most girls who have to make the daily excursion to office or business, but, of course, there will always be a certain number anxious to imitate fashion in cheap and flimsy materials which look nothing less than deplorable at the end of a few days of fog and rain. Indeed, they are not calculated to stand even a more kindly climate, having never possessed those qualities which in a serge or tweed show beauty and good taste even in old age. As every girl with a limited dress allowance knows, it is the trifles which run away with the quarters, and the wise girl who wishes to look well-dressed at all times does not attempt too many frills and fussinesses.

No summer wardrobe is complete without one simple silk or pongee gown. The cloth suit is taken for granted. For the best, this is to be a season of tub gowns. The number of linens and other wash materials that are being unpacked leaves no doubt at all on that score.



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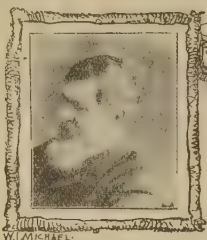
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FRUIT NOTES

By Prof. H. E. Van Deman

Horticultural Notes from Florida.

Here I am again far down the east coast of Florida, where there is almost perpetual summer. A frost is the rarest thing and it is always so light when it does touch vegetation here that the tenderest things, such as pineapples, tomatoes and melons are about all that is hurt, and that is not usually serious. The blue waters of Biscayne Bay glisten through the coconut trees as I write. Whoever has not seen a living coconut tree has one of the beautiful things of earth yet to enjoy. The tall trunk is very graceful but the feathery, yellowish green leaves, nearly twenty feet long in some cases, all coming from one bud at the crown and waving in the air, is a sight never to be forgotten. The clusters of nuts in all stages of growth and the straw colored flowering stems freshly opened add to the beauty and interest of the tree. The trees stand in great groves and sometimes singly of all ages, from those only making their first leaves to the tall old monarchs of a century or more. They seem to love the sea, and now here do they flourish so well as where their roots can reach into the salty marshes along the shore.

The dwellings of even the poorest inhabitants of this region are surrounded in some degree by giant bushes of oleander and African bibiscus. What we know of these two lovely flowering shrubs as pot plants in the north gives but a feeble idea of their real development. They seem to be always in bloom here and the bibiscus flowers are fully six inches across and of several hues of crimson, pink and purple. Oleanders red, pink and white are more common than lilac flowers in springtime in our homes in the regions to the northward.

Colens and achyranthus hedges and massed beds are a perfect glory of brilliant color, and some of them are nearly ten feet high. It fails me to tell of the many lovely flowers, aside from the roses and a few other things that are familiar to all, for there is so much and time to use in writing is all too short.

Pineapple fields are as common as cabbage patches in New York. The plants are set out about two feet apart and carefully hoed and fertilized the first year, but after that they need little attention for several years except to fertilize them and gather the fruit. The crop is usually very profitable where at all properly managed.

Mango trees are seen on every pioneer homestead and they seem to withstand all sorts of abuse and neglect and finally succeed quite well. The common seedlings are not very fine in the quality of their fruit but even these are considered good. The choice varieties from India and other tropical countries are just being introduced, and soon they will be found in the hands of those who are progressive enough to appreciate their worth. The fruit is about the size and shape of a pig's kidney, although there is some variation in both form and size. The color is usually greenish-yellow with a bronze or red cheek, and the flavor is sweet and yet tartish and spirited enough to please all tastes. The time will come when good mangoes will be sold in the shops of our northern States as the banana was some years ago.

The guava is another fruit that is seen everywhere, and is of the very easiest culture. Indeed, it almost needs no culture, but will pay for good attention. It is the food of the poor and rich and is made into all kinds of preparations for the table. Guava jelly is known the world over as one of the most delicious

of all table dainties. Eaten raw, guavas are excellent. The flavor is quite strongly tart and of quite a peculiar character.

In size and shape guavas of the true type are about like lemons, and their color is yellow or greenish-yellow. Inside they resemble the tomato in appearance.

When to Prune.

The question frequently arises when to prune. Among the earlier horticulturists this question was often answered as follows: "Prune when your knife is sharp." This is a comparatively safe method to follow with most plants, but where the problem involves the management of extensive commercial plantations it is not so easy to prune in this miscellaneous fashion. The work must necessarily be done at some particular season and carried on in a systematic manner after some definite plan. With most orchardists and gardeners pruning can be done during the winter or early spring months, and where the object is the removal of small branches, this season is undoubtedly quite as satisfactory as any other. In fact, pruning during late spring, about the time or just previous to the beginning of growth, is particularly advantageous with the peach, because at that season, as a rule, all injury to the annual growth from winter killing will be apparent and the pruner can take advantage of this to remove all dead or injured branches and at the same time modify his plan so as to leave a maximum quantity of wood in order to secure a profitable crop of fruit, which might not be possible were the usual practice of removing one-half the annual growth followed in such seasons. With the apple and pear, which suffer less from winter killing, the annual pruning can as well be done in February or March, in the north, as at any other season. With the grape, however, which is likely to produce a heavy flow of sap if the pruning is delayed until late in the season, it is undoubtedly best to do the pruning during the late fall and early winter months.

There are several questions in connection with pruning which are not yet definitely settled for the different fruits. Some growers hold that late spring pruning tends to increase the fruit supply and that fall or early winter pruning increases the development of wood, particularly with the grape. But, as there are no careful records bearing upon this point, one must necessarily be guided largely by convenience or, as in the case of the peach, by climatic conditions. As a rule, it is undoubtedly best to delay pruning as late as possible where there is danger of winter killing. In other cases, where this injury is not likely to occur, it may be advantageous and equally satisfactory to prune in the late fall or early winter. Convenience and climatic conditions must be taken into consideration in determining the period for pruning. In the removal of large branches, however, the work should be done at a season when growth is at its height, in order that the healing process may begin at once and continue as long as possible during the season in which the cut is made. For this reason it is a common practice among orchardists to remove large branches of the apple and pear about the time they come into bloom, which is also about the period of the beginning of active growth. The same rule will hold with ornamental deciduous trees, except that the period of blooming cannot be taken as the basis. The gardener must observe the time when

annual growth begins and regulate his pruning accordingly.

No artificial medium can be applied to the surface of a wound which will induce it to heal more quickly. The activity of the healing process depends upon the character and position and the time of year when the wound is made rather than upon protective coverings.

Large wounds which result from the removal of branches of considerable diameter, leaving a large surface of heartwood exposed, may with advantage be protected by painting the cut surface with a heavy coat of white lead, the sole object of this precaution being to protect the heartwood from decay until the new growth, which forms from the growing tissue immediately under the bark, has had time to develop over the exposed dead wood and protect it from decay.

A large number of waxes, paints, and washes have been tried, and the conclusion of the whole matter may be summarized in the statement that any substance which is not corrosive or detrimental to growth which will protect the heartwood from the attacks of rot spores will prove a satisfactory covering for a cut surface. Among such substances may be mentioned white lead, yellow ochre, coal tar, and grafting wax.

L. C. Corbett, Farmers' Bul. No. 187.

Pruning Berry Bushes.

The blackberry and red raspberry resemble each other in the habit of growth. They send up canes from the roots during the summer which produce the fruit the following year. After fruiting, the canes die and they should be removed. The blackcap grows very much in the same way except that it remains in a hill and propagates itself by rooting at the tips. It requires summer pruning to make the plants straight and stocky.

Take out all dead canes, cutting off close to the ground. Then cut out all injured, diseased or spindly canes, and those which are out of the row. If grown in the hill system, leave from three to five canes to the hill, if in rows leave eight to ten inches apart. Head back to an even height as in a hedge. If the hill system is used for red raspberries and the plants are staked, but little heading back will be required.

The dead wood and clippings should be gathered carefully and burned, destroying any germs of disease which they may have. To make the bushes more stocky, summer pruning should be practiced, which consists in nipping out the bud of the growing shoot when it is twelve to fifteen inches high. This is commonly neglected until the plant is two feet high, which makes it top-heavy and more liable to break down with weight of fruit.

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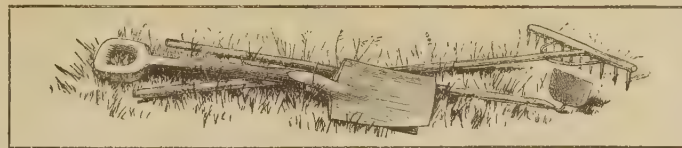
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In The Garden

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The Work Before Us.

We have the promise of seed time and harvest, and this has doubtless been a sort of sheet anchor to hold us to the hope of springtime by and by. April we trust, will usher in that good time, and will also cause an unusual pressure of work. For long months, very little of practical work has been possible except to the fortunate possessors of greenhouses; and they too have suffered a serious inconvenience. Well, this must not discourage us but rather incite us to greater efforts when the gardening time does come. So there will be plowing and sowing and weeding and hoeing; and the harvest later on. We certainly hope that many more of our friends will take up the work this year, and that those already in the field will not grow weary in well doing.

Some questions recently sent in deserve attention, and the answer we trust will help many others also.

Water Cress.

J. Dearborn, Tilton, N. H. "I am interested in gardening, and as we have a brook running through our land would like to try water cress, but do not know where to obtain seed. I do not find it in the seed catalogues. If I can procure the seed shall try to grow it. Can you tell me where to get it?"

I know of no seedsmen who do not list it, write any of the large dealers and they will be able to furnish it. Call for the true water cress, (not the upland) and it will cost ten cents per ounce or fifty or sixty cents per pound. You can sow the seed in very damp soil, and then transplant to the shallow water, or scatter the seed close to the water's edge. When once started, it will multiply rapidly from the roots, and with a little patience I think you will succeed.

Blackberries.

H. A. B., West Liberty, O. "Please answer me in your department, 'In the Garden,' by Mr. Morse, this: I bought some blackberry plants last spring, and, considering the weather, they made good enough growth. I cultivated them and also manured them. Before cold weather set in I covered the whole patch about three or four inches deep with good manure that was more manure than it was straw. I had the droppings and liquid parts but no bedding. Now which will be the best for me to do; take off the manure, or rather, work it, and keep the ground loose on top, or not hoe it any, but keep the three or four inches of manure on it? The patch is only seven feet by thirty-eight feet, but I want to do what will be the best for the plants. I am looking more to what I can get off them next year, than this, as the canes will be stronger and larger. Last year was an extremely poor year to grow any thing. Hope this year will be better and that there will be no late freeze.

I get a great deal of good out of your magazine."

Either treatment of which you speak will be good for your blackberries. I should prefer to spade or otherwise work the ground thoroughly, which will work the manure into the soil, then cover thickly with coarse litter and leave it on during the summer. Or instead of the litter keep the surface well worked during the summer. Either is good practice.

There are still several more of the prize essays, some of which we publish this month. They give us an idea of what is doing and what can be accomplished even in small gardens.

Tomatoes From Cuttings.

Prize Article.

From the 8th to 10th of July, take good tender cuttings eight or ten inches long, set them over half into the ground,

shade them a week, or more if the weather is dry. Water when set out, and occasionally until growth appears, and you will have an abundance of nice, smooth tomatoes in the fall. It is now November 2 and we have fine ones, and they sell very readily.

Mrs. S. M. Duggan, Georgia.

City Gardening.

Prize Article.

In order to be successful in any undertaking a person must have an ideal, and it is just as essential for a farmer to be a good farmer as it is for a mechanic to be a good mechanic, or for a merchant to be a good merchant. He must have a clear idea of what he wishes his land to produce and then bend all his energies to the accomplishment of his purpose. If he has only a small plot of ground which he can devote to a garden and wishes to grow peas, beans, cucumbers, tomatoes or any other kind of vegetables for the home table, let him inform himself as far as possible upon the requirements of those particular species. Good results depend much on knowledge and it is very important that the gardener should know his soil, as different varieties of vegetables require different kinds of soil and different treatment. Many an amateur has been discouraged by planting those which require rich, moist earth in clay or sandy soil and "vice versa."

Success also depends much on patience and the care which he is willing to bestow on the ground. A great deal of pleasure and enjoyment can be obtained from a garden with a very small outlay of money, and there is no work which repays a man better, whose business keeps him confined in store or office. Many an invalid has gained health and strength from working a few minutes each day in the open air and sunshine, that he could have attained in no other way. Our climate is so variable that no particular date for sowing or planting can be given as this depends almost entirely on the state of the weather and condition of the ground; no seeds should be sown until the earth is warm and pliable and there is no danger from frosts. It would be wise for every amateur who desires a good vegetable garden at small expense to take some reliable agricultural paper which gives all needful information pertaining to the care and cultivation of vegetables, fruit or flowers.

Edith Griffin.

A Woman's Acre.

Winner of the Second Prize.

John was taken sick in the middle of harvest, and neighbors had to help us in with the grain. The doctor discovered valvular heart disease and insisted that he should take life easier. But farm work is heavy and exhausting; and there was a small mortgage on the place, so we talked it over and decided to give up the cows and sell the most of the hay on the ground.

But that would not go far to pay debts, or to settle the bills of the butcher and baker, and John tried to keep a few cattle to feed in winter so that we might have the manure to keep the land in good heart, and use up the fodder we kept.

While we were taking a rather pessimistic view of life, I ventured to suggest an idea that had been in my mind for a long time.

"John," I said, "will you let me have an acre on the south side of the house? It is only a potato field now, but clean and in good heart, and I feel certain it can be made to pay an income, if you are able to do the work with one horse in cultivating. I want to go to work, and study it out, if you will let me try on that one acre."

"A woman's acre," he said, smiling whimsically, and by that name my

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garden has been called since, and I am proud of the title.

The land was planned in rows that autumn and currant bushes planted in long lines that were twelve feet apart, with apple trees in every alternate row. I chose the Tetofsky, an early Russian apple, for every second tree, alternating with a fine early winter apple tree called McIntosh Red, and a few russets for late keeping.

This allowed for cutting out the early apple trees if the latter sort required more space, as they might do after a number of years.

The first year gave only small results; the ground was filled in with early peas and beans between the rows, and a tomato plant was trained on a stick between each currant bush. After the first crop was picked, the ground was filled with cauliflower and celery.

We kept the children at school, but they had regular work to do night and morning, and Saturday was our field day for gardening. Other days I hired a boy to hoe with me, and John was able to do the cultivating and set out plants for me. He made some hotbed sashes, and I sold enough plants of cauliflower, celery, tomatoes, asters and pansies to keep us in groceries during the summer months. The next year I procured some cast off fruit baskets at three cents each and filled them with plants for bedding out. That realized quite a little sum of money.

Beyond the currant bushes was a hard bit of ground that had never been cultivated of late years. It was very weedy and untidy and had been cut with a scythe twice in the season, while the land was rich virgin soil. I had a strong plowman turn it over and it was planted in potatoes the first year, bearing a bountiful crop, and the second year brought good returns in a fine crop of sweet corn. This land was on the outside of the acre, but had never been utilized, and was brought into good condition the second year, then heavily manured, and rows were made six feet apart. For I had invested in an ounce of Palmetto asparagus seed, that was sown in a small bed near the house, where it grew into strong and vigorous plants. There were eight hundred and ten all told, and it has been a profitable investment ever since we began cutting, which was two years after planting out.

It is comparatively light work, and the children and I did the cutting early every morning (except Sunday), cutting twice on Saturday, and John was able to do bunching and marketing.

The first year it was set out we planted strawberries that netted us forty dollars the next season, but they gathered weeds, and it did not pay for the extra labor required.

About the time the second crop of asparagus was cut we felt a change in our circumstances for the better, and the next season a wave of "rust" struck most of the asparagus beds throughout the country, but did not reach ours. The price went up and we reaped the benefit, for the little plot of ground cleared one hundred dollars. Since then the bed has reached and retained its prime, and we make more than that amount.

The currant crop brings in from fifty to sixty dollars according to the season, and the apples are now a steady income, being all sold in baskets that are easy to handle.

Along the only fence of this acre were planted raspberry bushes that gave a good profit, being large Cuthberts, and selling for twelve cents a box.

Summer vacation is the children's harvest, and we pay them for their labor, teaching them to save money and to buy their own clothing. Neighbors say indulgently that it is only taking it out of one pocket to put in another, but we think it best to teach them the value of their labor, and also money values.

We find celery a paying crop after early vegetables, giving us money in winter when there is no other truck, and we now grow sweet peas, mignonette, and pansies for sale, as these are called for, and our only daughter, at the age of twelve, has developed a fine taste in arranging. In fact our roses and rose bushes are in demand, though they were growing in the garden unheeded before I began to look at everything from a commercial standpoint.

At this writing, I can by good management, help out our income by four hundred dollars a year, and sometimes it reaches five hundred, according to crops and prices.

Our two boys are growing up and the eldest is ready for business college, while the younger has taken a fancy to become a florist.

This little story may encourage others to like effort who have better market facilities, for we are fifteen miles from a town and obliged to take cars or steamboat to reach it, while to those within driving distance the results might be even more profitable.

There was health in this work, the value of which cannot be estimated, and with lighter labor and freedom from care, the father's health improved—and he vows that he never regretted trusting to a woman's acre.

Mrs. Anna L. Jack.

Enemies of the Potato Beetle.

(Written for Vick's by Nathaniel G. Saxon.)

Any birds or insects which prey upon the Colorado potato beetle are of great value to farmers, for this beetle is a particularly troublesome pest for which no effective remedy has been found. Unfortunately, most of our birds do not feed upon it; but there is one species, the rose-breasted grosbeak, known to ornithologists as *Zamelodia ludoviciana*, which regards the potato beetle as a choice morsel. It is not abundant in any state, owing to the slaughter of the males for their beautiful plumage which is used for the decoration (?) of women's hats. The rosebreasts breed in the Northern states east of the Missouri river, building their nests in orchards and groves. Every means should be exerted for their protection and increase. If the present rate of destruction continues we will lose a most valuable ally.

Among insects several species of beetles, of the family Carabidae, are enemies of the potato beetle some destroying eggs while large numbers are destroyed in the pupa state.

More than eleven hundred species of the family Carabidae, from North America, have been described, all of which are beneficial. Other insects prey upon the potato beetles to some extent but the ground beetles are undoubtedly most efficient in that line. The cut-worms, larvae of *Cleaneia* and *Agrostis*, which are numerous, have a formidable enemy in the larvae of the ground beetle (*Calosoma calidum*) which is an inch long and armed with terrible jaws. The beneficial effects of these beetles are not generally understood, probably from the fact that most of their work is done at night or just after sunset. The common fireflies which we see in summer in great numbers, are predatory on injurious insects; and last I will mention the lady bugs both the larvae and beetles devouring eggs and larvae of vegetable feeders. There is a vegetable feeder (*Epilachna borealis*) which closely resembles the lady birds and should be destroyed, but farmers should refrain from indiscriminate insect destruction for many of the insects are beneficial.

Supposing.

Jes' s'pos'n that you didn't have to work to earn your bread,
An' every month was summer, with the blue sky overhead.
Jes' s'pos'n that a fortune grew in ev'ry one's back yard,
An' drouth was never prevalent an' times was never hard.
I tell you, when you're weary with the troubles of the day,
An' the shadows gather round you an' the sunshine fades away,
There's nothin' soothes your spirit an' revives you half so well
As jes' to sit in solitude an' s'pos'n for a spell.
Your dreams ain't likely to come true, as very well you know,
But all the world, they say, is nothin' but a feetin' show,
An' 'mid the disappointments an' illusions that beguile,
I'm thankful fur the privilege of s'pos'n awhile.

Washington Star.

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—if you simply send me your name and address. This is an absolute gift and I shall neither ask nor accept pay for it now or in the future. Can you afford to continue in pain and misery when you can get this marvelous new and guaranteed treatment simply for the asking? Write me to-day and I will send you the treatment at once, and with it an elegant illustrated book on Rheumatism, all free and prepaid. Don't send any money—not even a postage stamp—but send your name and address THIS VERY DAY.

Prof. S. M. WATSON, Dept. 27, Battle Creek, Mich.

is sold under guarantee to remove most obstinate wrinkles in three applications, price 25c postpaid in plain wrappers—Maple Specialty Co. Box 103 New Durham, N. J.

prime favorites with me. A great many object to this breed, and they have but few admirers in comparison with other breeds, simply because they are like Topsy—"Black ye see." If more would give them their just dues they would find out from experience, as I have, their good qualities. Now from these seven hens I raised one hundred and fifty chickens. So many say they cannot see how I accomplished this.

Well, in the first place, the Black Langshans are excellent layers, and as soon as I had four sittings saved I bought four old scrub sitting hens from the neighbors; then I prepared the nests with plenty of wood ashes in the bottom to keep the vermin away. These nests were in a small outhouse where they were confined but had plenty of light and ventilation, plenty of shelled corn, good fresh water, a dusting place, and I covered them over with boxes if they refused to go back. It only takes a little patience to watch them; they will finally learn to each go back on her nest. When they hatched I took the chickens all away and raised them in a brooder, then reset all four hens again. By feeding them plenty of corn, renewing their nests, and keeping them free from lice you can set them three times in succession. In the meantime buy more hens and do likewise and you can raise a large number in one season from a few hens. As soon as my Langshans wanted to sit I put in a veto at once, only later in the fall I would let them sit, bring off their brood and raise them in the woods; of course the varmints, the hawks, etc., would get their share.

Never feed your young chicks until twenty-four hours old and then hard boiled eggs, crumbled up on a small pile of sand or scattered on the sand, because they must the first thing have sand in their craw; and positively do not give any water until the third day, then only in the bread scraps. They get enough water in the soaked bread to do them until they are four days old. By following these directions your chickens will never become gummed up around the fluff. It requires time and patience to insure success. We must watch and take care of the chicks and in a few short weeks we realize the benefits.

Before Christmas I dressed ten of these large Black Langshan cockerels and took them to town and they averaged eight and nine pounds. A great many people preferred them to turkeys. When I told them they were the Black Langshans they looked incredulous and to make them believe it I invited them out to see my favorites. You can raise two, three, or four hundred Black Langshans and from the number you may have twenty or thirty culls. Raise the same number of Plymouth Rocks, you will have about twenty or thirty good birds and perhaps not one of those fit for the show pen. I know whereof I speak because I have raised all kinds for show birds and find the Plymouth Rocks the hardest, most difficult birds to breed up to the standard.

Mrs. J. Bernhardt.

A Lesson.

It was rather late in the spring before I could get a man to help me clean the chicken house. The droppings had accumulated to a considerable depth warm weather and the big blue flies had come and the droppings were literally alive with maggots. The first basketful was dumped near the henhouse before I could make the man understand that it must be carried to the orchard near by.

While we were cleaning I thought it would be a good time to take off the sitters to feed, and some of them went directly to the pile of droppings and began scratching and working at them. This in the forenoon; in the afternoon I went to the chicken house and found a sitter off the nest and trying to get out of the room. I let her out and away she went straight to the water dish and drank until I thought her crop would burst; then came back and returned to her nest. Next morning this one and another were again off and again evinced great thirst, coming off several times to drink. The next morning one was dead and the other refused to return to the nest, sitting disconsolately on the side with drooping head and closed eyes.

Others also acted ill as did also several of the main flock, which had, in the

meantime, been busily at work in the orchard. Lime water was added to the milk, a solution of copperas was put in the water dishes but all to no avail.

Later I found the sixth of the pretty silver-laced Wyandottes dead under the roost and as many more very sick and I can only think that the eating of the maggots caused all the trouble.

It was a bitter lesson, but I've learned that it is better to clean the hen house before it gets so bad, or have the droppings carried so far that the hens will not find them. E. R. B.

Interesting Facts.

It has been estimated that nine novels had a total sale of 1,600,000 copies. This means two million pounds of paper. We are assured by a manufacturer of paper that the average spruce tree yields a little less than half a cord of wood which is equivalent to five hundred pounds of paper. In other words, these nine novels swept away four thousand trees.

The first life-insurance society was started in London in 1698, and another in 1700. Neither was successful.

Evidence that animals can count has been collected by Signor Mancini. Horses in the collieries at Hainault have a regular number of daily trips, and invariably seek their stables after the thirtieth. A dog remembered the twenty-sixth buried bone a short time after digging up twenty-five. Birds count their eggs, magpies count only to four. The latter is true also of monkeys.

In Germany they are beginning to cut down trees by electricity. A platinum wire is heated to a white heat by an electric current and used like a saw. The tree is then cut down much more quickly than in the old way, taking only one-eighth of the time. The process makes no sawdust and shows other advantages, its economy, however, being its chief recommendation, and giving assurance that it will be widely adopted.

No where is the woman doctor more in evidence than in Russia. Among the wild and scattered population of this immense country there is an inexhaustible field for women as doctors and teachers, and it is the knowledge of this fact which has disarmed the opposition to their going through universities. In 1897 Russia had 997 women doctors and the number constantly increases. In this profession Russian women have made a distinguished name. They have enormous practices in the great towns, and are largely employed by the municipalities.

As twilight approaches a garden filled with brilliant flowers, the red flowers will first lose their gorgeous color as the light diminishes, and then the grass and leaves will appear grayish. The last flowers to part with their distinctive color—white flowers being left out of the account—will be the blue or violet ones. This fact is useful to such insects as, in order to avoid their enemies, visit wild flowers in the twilight.

The secret of the inexhaustible fertility of the Nile valley, which has long been credited to the annual deposit of silt from the overflowing of the river, has been discovered by Mr. Fairchild, agricultural explorer of the United States Government, to be owing to the nitrifying powers of the plant berseem. Berseem is a species of trifolium, which has the power not only to consume saline and alkaline properties in the land, but also enrich it with nitrates. Something of a composite of alfalfa and clover, it is in every way more delicate in flavor and succulence than either.

Naturalists have decided that many insects have senses which human beings lack. That of location, shown by the wasp, for instance, is remarkable. One species builds its nest in a sandbank that is only a part of several acres of such soil, and when it leaves in search of food it covers the nest so carefully that no ordinary eye could discover its location. That is to say, it is just like all the surrounding location, and yet the wasp flies back to it without hesitation and finds it without making a mistake. There is another wasp that unerringly locates the eggs of the masonbee under a thick layer of sun-baked clay, and deposits her own eggs in the same cells that her young may have food when they are hatched.

How She Beautified

(A Prize-Winner in Our Late Contest.)

By Mrs. T. A. Shuff.

"Fifty cents is rather a small sum to beautify with," murmured little Mrs. Gleason, as she looked at the long bare porch, the neglected yard and the pile of empty flower pots by the garden fence, "yet," she added reflectively, "it might be done."

She had on hand a fine supply of Madeira bulbs and a large quantity of wild cucumber seed; these, she knew, would furnish shade for the porch and cover many barren spots but they could not provide color and brightness.

Since her limited capital would not admit of a variety, she sent an order for seeds as follows:

Nasturtiums, both tall and dwarf varieties,	20 cts.
Gloxinias, large-flowered,	15 cts.
Coleus, many beautiful varieties mixed,	15 cts.
Total,	50 cts.

Had Mrs. Gleason been less hopeful and persevering, her courage would have failed when she received those tiny seeds, so small that they were almost imperceptible in her fingers as she carefully scattered them over her boxes of soil. Covering with a damp cloth, she placed them in the pantry window and went on with her planning and preparations.

Being an optimist of the most confirmed type, Mrs. Gleason firmly believed that there were mighty possibilities in those boxes and it may be that this view of things helped to make her success greater, later on.

The heat, light and moisture combined forces and brought up the coleus and gloxinia plants in great numbers. These were transplanted as soon as possible and removed to the open air. When about one inch in height, they were again transplanted into pots. Each paper produced about sixty plants.

The dwarf nasturtiums were planted in a long bed directly below the edge of the porch, the tall, running ones were to cover a wire fence and form a screen, completely shutting out the view of back yard and garden.

No flowers could ever prove as interesting as the unfolding and color of those coleus leaves, day by day. They were simply wonderful. By shifting them time after time into fresh rich soil, Mrs. Gleason had a display, by the middle of July, that was grand and gorgeous. The gloxinias, too, from their shaded position behind the vines, could be seen throwing up stiff stems that promised much for the near future. No one ever felt the need of flowers while admiring the rich coloring and marvelous growth of Mrs. Gleason's foliage plants. The porch beamed and blossomed with rows of them; they were everywhere, on stumps and posts and temporary flower stands.

She gave away bouquets of nasturtiums and brilliant gloxinias and slips of coleus to all her friends and many times that summer she was obliged to explain just how she accomplished the wonderful feat.

Greeting From Massachusetts.

Early in February when days were cold a nursery canvasser appeared at the door. His book of beautiful plates and descriptions was so attractive it was a positive pleasure to leave baking and brewing a few minutes, forgetting that man (and woman) must be fed, and revel in a taste of floral beauties on paper.

"Ah," he said, as I exclaimed occasionally with delight, "I see you have not lost courage and enthusiasm."

"Oh no!" I replied. "How can I when nature is so constant and true?"

And now with the opening spring and coming summer my inspiration takes a second forward step. April—the promise month! No wonder that poets sing its praise in fancy's bright garlands. After February's cold days with gorgeous sunsets, departed, and blustering, whirling March appeared I found that the snowdrops I had set under the south windows

begin to show their greenish-white tips. (How I wish I could inspire every flower-lover to invest in a few snowdrop bulbs! They are cheap in price and will repay manifold.)

In early March days the little flower opened to greet me, the very first from the long winter sleep. I have had them bloom as early as February ninth, but the winter was exceptionally warm and open. Several snowstorms buried them but they bloomed right on, never minding snow, hail, sleet, or rain. Yes! the little snowdrop is my friend. I have looked for it many years and it never yet failed.

Bulbs once set will last, but the flowers will be larger and stronger if new bulbs are occasionally added. This has been my practice.

Then with lengthening March days the crocus bulbs found the light, putting on their yellow bonnets. For the Mammoth Golden is the first to bloom. It gives many, many flowers and is indeed a glory of spring. How my little bed has

been admired! And I may truthfully add by no one more than by myself.

Later, the white and purple followed. How fine they are! Who does not rejoice in the crocus—dear harbinger of spring?

When storms of winter are on and we sit before blazing fires enjoying warmth and comfort the bulbs are likewise snug and warm wrapped in brown blankets tucked away in beds ready to respond, at the touch of spring. So the glad crocus is here and close beside it the gay an festive tulip sending up thick, strong leaves and full buds.

The early Tulips are already in bloom—single red and single yellow among the very earliest. Indeed, with the April Crocus, the very first week in the month the yellow tulip blooms. It sends up its pale yellow petals folded in the green buds and soon the April sunshine draws it open. Then how glad the winsome flower appears (to imagination's eye) to greet the spring so early and possibly a trifle proud at being in advance of more gorgeous varieties.

The mulching and covering of bulb beds should be gradually removed. On a bright March day toward end of the month if the sun is shining, I rake off partly, letting the sunshine gladden the waking flowers, for the crocus at least by this time is growing uneasy. If, however, a cold, sleety storm prevails soon, within a day or two, I cover again, for an

icy deluge does not improve them as I have had occasion to know. But oftentimes there is no need to cover a second time after it is pushed away. Take off the dressing more and more, letting in the sunshine and abundant spring rain. My experience has taught me that flowering bulbs need moisture. And if rains are withheld, as is sometime the case, then the beds must be watered or the fine Crocuses and gorgeous Tulips will droop. As a rule there is no need of watering the bulbs.

I trust the flower sisters everywhere are enjoying their bulb beds, are getting out into the sunshiny weather and are going forward with their garden, for, what would life be without a garden?

Cousin Delight.

A Flower-bed in Pink and White.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

In the center of a circular bed about eighteen bulbs of the spotted leaved Calla are planted six inches apart and six inches deep. They are decorative when grown thus in a group. Around these are two rows of the beautiful pink bedding Begonia Erfordia, which is a constant bloomer and even more beautiful in the sun than in the shade. The whole is bordered with a double row of pink Fairy Lilies. A bed of this kind requires no trimming to preserve its perfect shape. We find it a very pleasing combination.

Flora Lee.

THE CONQUEROR OF CATARRH

If you have Catarrh, let me conquer it for you. If it isn't overpowering now, it's bound to get the best of you in the end. You think not? Lots of people have made that mistake. They say, "Oh, it doesn't amount to much—it's only Catarrh." So on they go, adding to it just a little every week. They never notice how it's creeping along through the system. At last there comes a day when "only Catarrh" turns out to be a pretty serious thing.

But leaving out the danger, there's another reason for getting rid of it. Catarrh is an **unclean** disease. To put it plainly your hawking and spitting and bad breath make you a nuisance to your friends. It's not pleasant for them to have you

around. That sounds harsh—but it's the truth. Of course they don't tell you so. They don't want to make you feel badly. Just the same, no one, not even a relative, enjoys being near a person with a foul fetid breath. There's not the slightest doubt it hurts you terribly with outside people—with the people you meet in a business way.

Did you think it no use to try to cure Catarrh? Some physician whose knowledge on the subject is as limited as it is unreliable, may have told you so. Perhaps you tried to cure it yourself with some of the many nostrums so widely advertised for that purpose. Then you failed, for such things simply cannot cure Catarrh. You see, it's a disease that affects different persons in different ways. It demands individual treatment. You simply haven't done the right thing for it. But don't be discouraged. Seek help in the proper place. Write to me at once and I will give

FREE CONSULTATION AND ADVICE

I offer you counsel, sympathy, and aid, without charge. This treacherous disease has been my life study and I am familiar with its workings from start to finish. I can tell you how to cure it safely—quickly—permanently. The thousands to whom I have brought relief, and they may be found in every part of North America, willingly testify to my wholeheartedness, sincerity of purpose, and the wonderful cures I have made. I will gladly send you the names of many people I have cured who live right near you. Now read the list of the common symptoms of

Catarrh of Head and Throat

Is your throat raw?
Is your breath foul?
Do you spit often?
Are your eyes watery?
Do you sneeze often?
Is your nose stopped up?
Do you take cold easily?
Are you worse in damp weather?
Do you blow your nose a good deal?
Do you have a dull feeling in your head?
Does your mouth taste bad mornings?
Is there a tickling sensation in your throat?
Do you have to clear your throat on rising?
Do you have an unpleasant discharge from the nose?
Does the mucus drop into your throat from the nose?

Answer the questions, yes or no, write your name and address plainly on the dotted lines, cut out and send to **Dr. Sproule, B. A.**, (Graduate Dublin University, Ireland, formerly Surgeon British Royal Naval Service), Catarrh Specialist, 16 Doane St., BOSTON, Mass. He will give you valuable aid, FREE of CHARGE.

NAME

ADDRESS



Dr. Sproule, B. A., Catarrh Specialist.

In the early, mildest stages
Of the trouble called Catarrh,
Who that has it thinks of peril,
Sees the danger from afar?
Then it seems a simple matter,
Nothing that requires a cure,
So it grows with stealthy power,
Makes its progress slow but sure.

Soon it poisons all the system,
Wrecks the hearing, taste and smell;
But there is a graver danger
Coming, as the days will tell.
'Tis Consumption, grim and awful,
Strangling soon the sufferer's breath;
And Catarrh's unheeding victim
Finds himself confronting death.

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- 1 pkt. Sweet Pea (Giant)
- 1 pkt. Verbena (special mixed)
- 1 pkt. Cup and Saucer
- 1 pkt. Oriental Poppy
- 1 pkt. Flowering Sage
- 1 pkt. Hardy Geranium
- 1 pkt. Blue Bell
- 1 pkt. Scarlet Freesia, 1 Wind Flower, 1 Spotted Calla, 1 Gladiolus, 1 Ranunculus, 2 Hyacinths, 1 Madeline Vine, 1 Shamrock Flower, 10 assorted bulbs for house or garden.

All the above flowers, cash check and the best catalogue in the United States for the cost of packing and postage, 25 cents.

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Send me Four two-cent stamps, the names and all addresses of two of your flower loving friends and I will mail you Four Easily Growing and Popular Annuals (25 cents value).

ASTERS—Finest seed. Of all best varieties. **MYRTLES**—Over 20 famous varieties. **ROYAL SHOW PANSIES**—Over 100 colors. **SWEET PEAS**—Over 40 choice varieties.

One package of each variety, my book, "Floral Culture," and my 12th annual catalogue, daintier and prettier than ever, sent for **ONLY 5 CENTS** and the names and addresses of two flower loving friends. You won't forget if you write NOW.

MISS C. H. LIPPINCOTT, Minneapolis, Minn.

Violet Song.
(A prize-winning poem in our late contest.)

O, the tiny violets blue!
Wee bit flowerets wet with dew,
Peeping out amid the grasses
Like blue eyes of smiling lasses.

Summer skies are ever bluer,
Lover's hearts can ne'er be truer,
And thy breath all perfume laden,
Sweeter is than daintiest maiden.

Matters not if wedding bell,
Or if 'tis a funeral knell,
Thou alike canst cheer our sadness
Thou canst make more gay our gladness.

O, the tiny violets blue!
Sweetest flowers of fairest hue,
Like a song from happy heart—
Like a bit of Heaven thou art.

Mrs. C. L. Eyles.

Sweet Peas for Profit.

(A prize-winning article in our late contest.)

The culture of sweet peas for profit, may seem to be somewhat lacking in sentiment from a poetical point of view, but it is quite satisfying in a material sense; for the pleasant task of growing these fragrant flowers loses none of its charm because the family purse is thereby replenished.

The ever increasing popularity of sweet peas gives them the precedence for profitable amateur culture, also their blooming season may be prolonged by judicious management beyond that of most other hardy annuals. In spite of the large quantities of these flowers that are grown each year, the supply frequently fails to meet the demand, both with professional and amateur florists.

A florist housekeeper who makes a specialty of the culture of sweet peas gives the following advice about cultivation.

Always procure the best quality of seeds from reliable dealers; cheap seeds will yield inferior results. It is also more economical to buy in large quantities, rather than by the packet, as you receive more seeds in bulk for your money.

"The seeds should be planted very early, in March if possible. As soon as the frost will permit tillage of the ground, make trenches six inches in width, from ten to twelve inches in depth, and as long as desired. Remove all of the earth from the trench; fill in a layer two inches deep of well rotted barn yard manure; add a second two inch layer of sifted garden soil. In this plant the seeds three inches apart. Cover with two more inches of soil combined with the fertilizer. As the peas come up fill the trench gradually with a mixture of equal parts soil and hard-wood ashes. All through the season apply occasionally, a top dressing of some good phosphate. Any ordinary garden soil is adapted to the growth of peas, but as every successful grower knows, the best results both in quantity and quality of the blossoms, will be realized from richly fertilized soil. If the weather be dry, frequent sprinkling with a fine spray hose will be found necessary after the seeds come up. Do not water before, as the ground is sufficiently moist so early in the season for seeds to germinate. Water applied might cause them to rot.

"After peas reach the healthy growing period, they require large quantities of water, also through the blooming season. Through the usually hot, dry months of July, August and September, they should be watered daily, unless rain falls.

"For the frames to support the vines, strong wooden posts should be driven at each end of a row; to these fasten narrow cross-bars of wood, at the top and at the bottom and tack coarse wire netting to the crossbars. The netting should range from six to nine feet in width, as the luxuriant growth of vines often attain the height of seven or eight feet.

"Plant the different varieties as much as possible separately; this systemizes the work, and aids in the sorting when cutting flowers for special demands.

"The blossoms require daily cutting, even when not ordered; they can be kept fresh longer in water, in a cool dark place, than if left on the vines. Besides the plants will soon lose their fertility if the flowers are allowed to wither, or go to seed on them.

"When a person desires to raise his own seed, plants should be grown apart especially for this purpose.

"There are now several innovations in the sweet pea family, which enables a grower to add a pleasing variety to his collection. The double sweet peas are the most unique of the new comers. These are very ardently admired by many who have a passion for flowers which illustrate the florists skill. The colors, and fragrance, are much the same as those of the single peas.

"The bush sweet peas are distinctly different in growth, which is compact, and in bush form, the flowers are borne at the top. They require no support when grown in a hedge; but a single plant, if cultivated separately, requires a slight support. Both these and the double sweet peas are suitable for cut flowers.

"The Tom Thumb, or Cupid sweet peas, are an interesting dwarf variety, principally adapted for bedding purposes. The flowers are borne on stems too short for cutting."

This florist who carries out her sweet pea culture so successfully, was justly proud last season, of furnishing creamy white blossoms for the bride's bouquet at a June wedding. This shows what early planting can do.

She frequently received larger orders than she could fill at one time. Again there would be a surplus stock; but this was usually disposed of to a professional florist at slightly reduced prices.

All through the long season her beautiful flowers shed their fragrance alike, in loving tribute to the departed, and in artistic decorations for gay social functions.

The remuneration for her labors netted her a neat little bank account until Jack Frost levied on the firm, and closed it out, with genuine manly scorn for a woman's adaptation to business.

Sarah Rodney.

Starting Tuberous Plants.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

While our way of starting tuberous plants may not be a new one, no doubt there are many who will welcome the suggestions offered.

Some weeks before it is safe to put out such tubers as gladiolus (for very early ones) dahlia, canna and bulbous vines, prepare a handy sized flat; in this place the two pound paste board oatmeal boxes, each cut in two in the center. Place these pasteboard fillers in snugly, fill them a third full of loose soil, put the tuber therein, cover with soil, water thoroughly, then fill up with soil. Place in a warm dark place until growth commences, then put in a sunny window.

By this method they will have a nice growth by transplanting time, of course it will be necessary to harden them off before placing outdoors. Water whenever necessary, but do not give too much water until growth starts, else there will be decay.

If the dahlia, canna and gladiolus were put away in clumps as they should have been, it will be necessary to use a sharp knife to separate the two former into "set out" tubers. Be sure to cut an "eye" or sprout with each dahlia tuber. These eyes are clustered on or around the main stalk, and will be sure to furnish blossoms; the blind tubers, however plump, are not trustworthy, but the extra sprouts from a tuber with eyes will often give nice flowers. We had lovely white dahlias from the extra sprouts, but they were much later than the large roots.

Cannas are easily divided so as to get a nice sprout with each root, and if they have wintered well the leaves will soon begin to "un-cigar" as our little ones

(Continued on page twenty-two.)

A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

I have been selling Perfumes for the past six months. I make them myself at home and sell to friends and neighbors. Have made \$710. Everybody buys a bottle. I first made it for my own use only, but the curiosity of friends as to where I procured such exquisite odors, prompted me to sell it. I clear from \$25 to \$35 per week. I do not canvass; people come and send me for the perfumes. Any intelligent person can do as well as I do. For 42 cents in stamps I will send you the formula for making all kinds of perfumes and a sample bottle prepaid. I will also help you get started in business.

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have it. One can have plants a foot high by bedding-out-time, and when the beds are prepared, it is not necessary to remove the rootlets from the paste-board box, just plant box and all; if desired the box can be cut from around the roots.

Treat Caladiums the same way, of course using a larger box, but the boxes mentioned will be large enough to accommodate a tuber of dahlia or canna that will bloom finely.

Emma Clearwaters.

Pansies Grown in the Sun.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Having no available shady place, I grow my pansies in full sunshine, and with most excellent results. They have a well enriched soil which is part leaf mould; but the important point is that the whole bed is covered (or mulched) with moss. This keeps the roots cool, and the tops do not seem to object to the sun's rays in the least. It also helps to keep the soil moist. I leave a circle of about an inch around each plant, and sometimes fill this in with sand to prevent too much moisture at base of the plant.

Flora Lee.

Some Floral Advice.

Are you a city woman with all her floral advantages? To water thirsty plants have you only to "press the button" and let the river "do the rest?" Then pass this article.

Are you a country dame whose cistern is shallow and well, weak? When there is a drouth, does every drop drank by your riotous summer bloomers, and as well by those saving their splendor for September and later melancholy days, have daily to be hauled by the kind one who sports suspenders?

And occasionally, does that water necessary to preserve the posies from death, have to be carried in two tin pails by the flower grower herself from the horse pond,—alas, many feet away? And is the case of must have bouquet flowers with you?

Then attend to the words of the wife of Waldemar.

"My dear," said her Kind One, one January day when she sat, flower catalogue in hand, "I wish we could afford this year to get pipe and convey the water from the spring to your flower-garden."

"Don't wish it, Kind One," she answered, "Mohamet with a little help from you is this year going to the mountain, or more properly speaking, the flower-garden is going to the spring."

And so it came about that one whole day the song of the axe was heard in the woodland, and before plowing time a rough rail fence, high enough to keep back the biggest grass eater ever domesticated, enclosed a space sixty feet long and half as wide, in the center of which was the spring,—the never-failing, abundant flowing spring, that fed the pond.

A small gate at one side gave entrance to this enclosure, and here Madam planted her beds of pansies, verbenas and pinks,—her rows of nasturtiums and sweet peas;—here on rude shelves she set her pots of asters and tube roses, her dozens of boxes of chrysanthemums, dahlias, and cosmos. In the summer's dusk there was no anxious wait for the tired men to come home from the fields to haul the one barrel of water; no protest from a weary woman's back when the two tin pails were brought forth; no sighs from drooping flower-kings because their cup-bearer's supply was limited.

Madam had but to sink her tin pails again and again in the crystal flood and bid the flowers rejoice. And rejoice and thank her they did, in a more glorious growth and richer and longer yield of bloom than she had ever known. She had sweet peas to adorn her table in late September, when in the old time her vines had withered in July, and October found her pansies and her pinks at their best.

It was only when the pots of August blooming tube roses and lilies came into flower that they were removed to the house porticos for their season of bloom; when the asters announced themselves ready for a lovely two weeks visit they

made the trip on the Kind One's wheelbarrow, and later, when the dahlias and cosmos put on holiday dress, they too, were conveyed Madam's mansion in the same obliging vehicle. When the frost stood with his foot on the threshold of Madam's garden, the chrysanthemums, rank, tall, beautiful—were ready to bring to the house to make their floral debut.

There are climbing roses and clematis, crape myrtle, altheas, and other hardy shrubbery that requires no daily bath to flourish, that beautify Madam's wide yard, and these are enough there, she declares. She says that she will never again bind on the water carrier's slavish chains by planting seed flowers in her house yard,—the little walk she has to take to come into her floral world in the dewy mornings or the balmy evenings only give zest to the joy the blossoms bring her. Has not wisdom set her seal on the head of the wife of Waldemar?

Sarah Bell Hackley

Sweet Pea Fallacy.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

We often read that sweet peas should be planted in trenches six inches deep, covered two inches deep, and dirt filled in around them as they grow. This is a waste of time, and worse. The filling in is an endless job and usually results in many injuries to the young seedlings. Make the trench four inches deep and fill up level at once. The plants will appear almost as soon, will reach the level of the ground much sooner and in better shape, need not be disturbed and will be stronger and better in every way. *S. B. Hopkins.*

How to Raise Fine Pansies.

To successfully cultivate flowers, one must study the individual kinds so as to determine the method of cultivation best adapted to each. No flower garden is complete without at least a few bright pansy faces nodding in the breeze. To my mind, there is no richer coloring in all plant life than is to be found in a bed of vigorous pansies. By the following plan the writer raised several which measured over three inches across, the largest I have ever seen.

First make sure that you have the soil as rich as possible, because pansies are "good feeders." If your pansy bed is a little shaded in the afternoon, so much the better; for the blossoms will not grow so large if they have a too sunny exposure. Pansies don't like weeds. They seem to do better if grown in a bed by themselves. Sow the seed thinly, and do not cover too deep. However, the most important point in pansy culture is to keep them well supplied with water. One is not apt to overdo the matter of moisture. Several times a day in dry weather drench them with cold water. A good many plants are injured by sprinkling with water which is too cold, but it don't hurt pansies.

Pick the blossoms quite frequently; this will cause them to put forth an increased number; for this is nature's way of propagating its kind.

Pansies will not "run out" if the seed from one bed is mixed with that from another bed each year before planting.

Some say that if pansies are cut back in midsummer, leaving little but the crown of each plant, they will look fresher and bloom more profusely late in the season. Don't let the plants crowd each other, or they will grow slender.

Remember that the first requisite is good soil; the second, plenty of water; the third, more water.

Just try this plan and you will have a bed of pansies of which you will be proud.

F. E. Halbert.



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Columbines.

(Continued from Page Two.)

including A. Chrysantha, the pretty Arizona columbine. I had two plants that bore long spurred blossoms like the Arizona columbine but differing in color, and I fancied they were hybrids of A. Canadensis and A. Chrysantha.

Last season I raised a number of Colorado columbines; some of the plants are so large I fancy they will bloom this summer. Now that I have learned how, it seems easy to get plants from seed. The secret of success is to keep the soil moist. A shady or slightly protected location is best. In the shade of a sweet pea hedge the seeds germinated very satisfactorily and as the peas were always well cared for, the seedling columbines got plenty of water. Transplant the seedlings in the fall, give the plants plenty of room, mulch with leaves, put between and around the plants, but not over them. Some brush or evergreen boughs to keep the leaves in place will be an additional protection for the first winter. The plants are perfectly hardy, and need no protection after the first winter—and then only if recently transplanted. I have plants thirteen years old that seem to grow better each year. I have one bed of the double purple, east of the house and another south. These have no shade early in the season, and they seem to bloom quite as well as those in the more favored location. The bed of mixed columbines is in the open with nothing to shade the plants and they, too, have bloomed satisfactorily for two seasons. They are all well supplied with water, during their blooming season; after that the purple columbine receives no particular attention.

Columbines always look well. I have no perennial plants in my garden that "make such a good appearance" the whole twelve months in the year. Among the first to start growth in the spring, they are the last to droop when frost comes in the fall. All winter the columbine bed is green, or at least some of the plants retain their verdure. After blooming I cut off all flower stems, and the result is a pretty and attractive plant that makes a good background for low growing perennials or annuals. But I cannot enumerate all the good qualities of this favorite plant; just give it a trial and learn them for yourself.

Susan Tucker.

Our Chrysanthemum Show.

(Continued from Page Three.)

was late, most of the plant raisers were somehow late.

Almost too late for the lonely one! Her plants found their way to the show rooms, and threw all others into the shade, literally and figuratively; they were three, four, even five feet in circumference, some of them showing absolutely hundreds of blossoms! The Double Petunias were veritable bowers of beauty and fragrance, in crimson and white, pink and heliotrope, striped and variegated, entire and fringed! And Chrysanthemums! Great, downy ostrich plumes, lovely, loose Japanese, Anemone Flowered, compact and brilliant hued Chinese, and last and most exquisite of all, the beautiful little Pompons, little in flower, but big in bloom.

And how they sold! I should be afraid to mention the prices they brought, but I know of one ten dollar bill which found its way into the treasury, because of a glorious pink Petunia; and I know that for long afterward that Petunia was one of the landmarks in the center of a large show window in a business street.

L. M. Townsend.

Talks About Flowers.

(Continued from Page Four.)

sweet as those that grow "near to Nature's heart." If you are blessed with a large yard, I should advise you to adopt a number of these beautiful, wild children of the woods, and give them a home by themselves, in a shady corner of the flower garden. Nothing will give more satisfaction. A bed of wild flowers is certainly a thing of beauty, and a joy while it lasts which is quite a while.

It costs next to nothing and should be indulged in by everyone. Ferns are always beautiful, and may serve as a background for shorter plants. Starry trilliums, dainty hepatics, wild violets, bloodroot, and even the cowslip or marsh marigold should all be given a place of honor. The trailing arbutus is unfortunately about the only wild flower that does not act as expected; after transplanting.

Geraniums From Seeds.

(A prize article in our recent contest.)

Raising Geraniums from seeds is a favorite method with me of increasing my stock of that good old standby.

By buying seed of some good reliable firm one gets some new and rare varieties that would cost quite a sum of money to purchase in even small plants; and few of us flower lovers, among the laboring class can afford the outlay. In raising them from seed they seldom cost more than a cent apiece and often not so much. After purchasing the seeds, which should be choice mixed varieties, plant them in nicely prepared loam which has been baked and sifted, to free it from noxious weed seeds, putting each seed in carefully about one-eighth inch deep and two inches apart to allow them plenty of room to come up without crowding each other. Cover box or pan (a box is best) with a pane of glass and set in a warm sunny window where they will soon germinate; although it may be some time before all of them appear, as some will be much longer coming up than others; do not throw away the earth in the box, for a long time, as they will usually all germinate if given time to do so. When they have put forth four leaves, it is much better to transplant them into small pots or cans in good rich soil which has been thoroughly baked or heated to prepare it for the purpose. If kept in good growing condition they will blossom in from ten to twelve months from time of planting.

Mrs. Lizzie F. Brown.

Transplanting.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Most flowers and vegetables are better for at least one transplanting while they are small. Sometimes two or three transplantings are beneficial. Top growth usually stops for a time after transplanting, but root growth is doubled and feeding surfaces increased. We read of various plans for growing seedlings so that the roots will not be disturbed in transplanting. This is not only unnecessary, but unwise; let the roots be well shaken out—the plants will be sturdier and stockier. Of course this does not refer to delicate greenhouse exotics, but to ordinary garden flowers and vegetables.

S. B. Hopkins.

Can You Crack It?

A farmer moving has a fox, a goose, and a basket of corn. He comes to a river and the boat will only carry the farmer and one of his charges. Now, if he leaves the fox and the goose alone, the fox will eat the goose, and if he leaves the goose and the corn alone, the goose will eat the corn. How can he safely take them all over the river?

Every one who sends a correct answer to the above question, when remitting for a subscription, will receive Vick's an extra year as a special prize.

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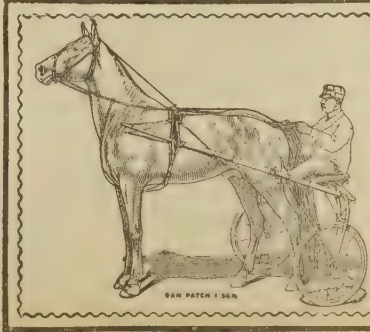
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Grandma Dale's Garden.

What Grew in It, and Out of It.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

"Here Mother," said young Mr. Dale, as he came in from the post office, one cold day, "Here is something that will interest you, unless you've changed mightily of late years," tossing into her lap, as he spoke, a catalogue from one of the leading seed houses; then, seating himself, began looking over his mail.

His mother picked up the gay-covered pamphlet and began turning the pages, —rather listlessly at first, but soon her eyes brightened at sight of the once familiar names and cuts; and she was scanning each page, as eagerly as were her little grandchildren, who had gathered around her, attracted by the bright pictures of beautiful flowers, and tempting fruit and vegetables.

Grandma Dale had been born upon a thrifty, eastern farm; and all of her life, up to the previous summer when she had come west to become an inmate of her son's home, had been spent in the same vicinity. Hence it was not strange that the bare, unadorned newness of the western town, struck her most unpleasantly as she stepped off the train at the end of her long journey from the East, left in the full glory of summer luxuriance and the greatest possible contrast to the treeless, flowerless, neglected looking yards, surrounding the houses that were passed on the way from the station to her son's home.

This proved a counterpart of its neighbors, excepting that the yard was larger; a fact that only served to make its barren aspect the more noticeable.

The kindly welcome awaiting the weary traveler; the excitement of the meeting with her long absent son; and the wife and family that she had never before seen, helped to reconcile her to the new home. With the coming of winter, she had become quite contented and even happy; but the sight of the seed catalogue, with all the delightful possibilities which it suggested, and the sad, sweet memories of long gone gardens and gardening, brought back that first miserable feeling of homesickness and of longing for the sight of trees and shrubs and flowers, so common in the East.

When her son had finished his mail, he turned to address her and easily read something of her thoughts and feelings, in her face. "Well Mother," he said cheerfully, "Do the pictures look natural?" Then as she did not answer immediately, added: "Or don't you take as much interest in such things, as you once did?"

"If I had a bit of ground to experiment on, I'd soon show you," was the vigorous reply.

"If that is all you lack, why there is more than an acre of unoccupied land, here. Won't that do you?"

"Now, Will," broke in young Mrs. Dale, reproachfully, "don't encourage Grandma to work herself to death here, trying to raise something. You know I have tried and tried to raise just a few hardy flowers, and always failed."

"Perhaps Grandma might have better success," ventured her husband. "If she can't make a success of gardening here, no one can."

"I should be very willing to assume all the responsibility and try, if I had seeds and some one to prepare the ground for me," interposed Grandma in her brisk way.

Her son smiled at her vehemence. "Never mind the ground," he assured her; "You make out your list of seeds, and I'll attend to the rest."

That was the beginning. When Grandma finished her list of seeds, her son suggested that she add a few "good, old fashioned plant roots and bulbs," which she gladly did.

Long before spring opened, Grandma had her seeds; and soon had boxes of flourishing plants, both vegetables and flowers, growing to be ready for transplanting as soon as the weather would permit. In due season, a man appeared with the necessary tools, and after cleaning the poultry house and cow barn, with their respective yards, of the accumulations of years, and spreading the results of his labor, over the big, barren yard, he proceeded to plow and harrow and roll the soil into fine condition, much to Grandma's satisfaction and the delight of the children.

Not long afterward, a careful selection of nursery stock, both of the useful and ornamental varieties, was left in the Dale yard, and later, Mr. Dale, assisted by the whole family, set out trees and shrubs, and laid out drives and walks, until the whole place began to suggest a promise of future beauty.

After that, vegetable and flower gardens were laid out, under Grandma's supervision, and before very long, tiny green shoots, peeping up, set the whole family nearly wild with excitement. How they all, from papa down to the two-year-old baby, watched and worked and tended; hoed, pulled weeds and carried water for sprinkling, until papa brought home a garden hose, which made this last, unnecessary; but the work went on, no more time to idle away. Such healthful, delightful work, quite as good as play, the children said.

All of that first season of experimental gardening, happened fully ten years ago; but the work, —easier now—still goes on, year after year. The promise of beauty and delight has been more than fulfilled; and the Dale yard and gardens are the pride of the family, and indeed of the whole village. To be sure, they are old fashioned, that is their greatest charm in the eyes of many. Such dear, helpful, bountiful gardens are none too common, these days.

On the north is a row of evergreen trees; on the east and south are fruit trees, currant and goose berry bushes; on the west, next the street, are ornamental trees and shrubs. There is a vegetable garden back of the house, where wholesome, old fashioned vegetables grow in their season. In front are beds of sweet, old fashioned flowers, Grandma's especial comfort; and young Mrs. Dale says, that what is visible to the eye and outward senses, is only a small part of what has grown in and out of Grandma's garden.

First: Abounding health for the whole family, from the out of door exercise, and the fruit and vegetable diet the garden made possible.

Second: A family circle that has learned to find comfort and contentment at home.

Third: A farther good in the practical example, that has led to a general move in the same direction, throughout the vicinity.

Then Mr. Dale always adds: "Yes, in deed, Grandma's garden has been worth a fortune to this town and the surrounding country; just as a practical demonstration that barren, desolate home grounds are not the result of climate or soil, but of indifference and neglect."

Gertrude K. Lambert.

Pansy Faces.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Amid the royal purple,
And shadings maroon, and gold,
That do in waves of beauty,
In pansy fairness fold,
I catch a gleam so human,
A light, a smile divine,
As faces beam like real ones
Of love and friendship sign.

Who are you? ask I tearful,
You dear ones in your blue
And yellow like the sunshine,
The sky of azure hue.
Who are you? friends departed,
Who come once more to me?
I press the blooms for answer,
As they smile radiantly.

They only keep on beaming,
And smiling all the more,
Until I dream of angels,
The bright and golden shore.
Until I say "Like children,
You bring us tokens sweet,
The purple, gold of living,
'Tis thus, you pansies greet."

Ella M. Truesdell.

In April.

What did the sparrow do yesterday?

Nobody knew but the sparrows;
He were too bold who should try to say;
They have forgotten it all today.
Why does it haunt my thoughts this way,

With a joy that piques and harrows,
As the birds fly past,
And the chimes ring fast,
And the long spring shadows sweet shadow cast?

There's a maple-bud redder today;

It will almost flower tomorrow;
I could swear 'twas only yesterday
In a sheath of snow and ice it lay,
With fierce winds blowing it every way;
Whose surely had it to borrow,
Till birds should fly past,
And chimes ring fast,
And the long spring shadows sweet shadow cast?

"Was there ever a day like today,

So clear, so shining, so tender?"
The old cry out; and the children say,
With a laugh, aside: "That's always the way
With the old in spring; as long as they stay,
They find in it greater splendor,
When the birds fly past,
And the chimes ring fast,
And the long spring shadows sweet shadow cast!"

Then that may be why my thoughts all day—

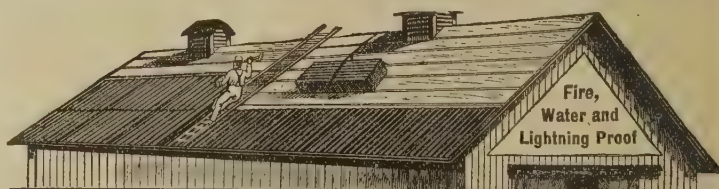
I see I am old, by the token—
Are so haunted by sounds, now sad, now gay,
Of the words I hear the sparrows say,
And the maple-bud's mysterious way
By which from its sheath it has broken,
While the birds fly past,
And the chimes ring fast,
And the long spring shadows sweet shadow cast!

Helen Hunt Jackson.

A Connecticut firm manufactures sacred scarab for the Egyptian tourist trade. The little charms are carved and even chipped by machinery, colored in bulk to simulate age, and shipped in casks to the Moslem dealers at Cairo. The Arabian guides are the chief buyers, many of them being adepts at "salting" the sands at the base of the Pyramids, or about the sacred temples, where they artfully discover these scarab before the very eyes of the Yankee tourist, and sell him for an American dollar, an article manufactured at a cost of less than a cent in his native land.

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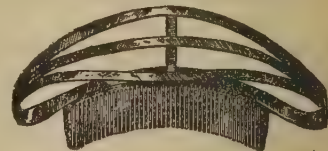
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A China Heart.

"Come away! Come away, Natalie!" pleaded Hester, balancing herself on her tiny, pointed heels, and fluttering her azure draperies like a wind-blown blue-jay. "I hear the stage horn. You don't want a china heart. You would break it as you do—the others," she added, with a wicked laugh.

Natalie held the little heart-shaped toy between her eyes and the light.

"It is excellent china, and beautifully enameled. I never saw a better picture of the fall but I suppose I can't have it, for the last cent of my allowance was gone long ago. It is horrid to be so wretchedly poor."

"Dear me! If you really want it, you have only to drop a hint to your numerous admirers. They will rise to the bait like hungry trout," suggested Hester, laughing mischievously as they turned away.

Natalie shrugged her shoulders, not dreaming that one of her numerous admirers had heard every word. He stood looking after her with open mouth.

Was the pretty lady, his Heart's Delight, so very poor then? He had always thought her rich, she wore such beautiful clothes. But one might have plenty to eat and wear and not much money, Billy knew. That was his own case.

He tiptoed up to the counter and asked the price of the little toy.

"Two dollars," replied the smiling salesgirl.

Billy fairly staggered out of the store. No wonder the pretty lady could not buy it. Then he sat down and took account of stock.

There were three cents, and never did pennies look so small. Out of the tangle that crammed his pockets he extracted three marbles and a fishhook that seemed commercially available. Could one small boy earn the required balance in a few weeks? One small boy would certainly try.

During the long, hot days that followed the pennies accumulated slowly. Onion rows are long and time is fleeting; and the value set on a small boy's time is deplorably low. Billy worked cheerfully but discouragement overtook him at times as it does all great souls. Then he would trot down to take another look at the china heart, and incidentally to bask in the light of the salesgirl's smile.

She had a wonderfully winning smile, and Billy had long ago told her his secret. That was the reason she kept the china heart hidden in an Indian moccasin until she saw Billy coming, otherwise some one else might have bought it and broken the china heart, Billy's and all.

She did not approve of the pretty lady with her coquettish airs; but she never told Billy so, for she did most heartily approve of him.

He came into the store one night with despair in his face.

"They're beginnin' to go. She'll be goin' away any day. I can't make it," he said, huskily.

To him the comings and goings of the summer boarders were as aimless as the flittings of the birds and butterflies, and quite as uncertain.

"I wouldn't be discouraged," said the salesgirl, brightly. "It's getting so late in the season that we have had a mark-down since you were here last."

"How much?" chirped Billy, with returning hope.

"I can let you have it for a dollar and a half now."

"Jeminee! I've got one forty-five!" cried Billy, fumbling wildly in his pockets.

"I think I could take one forty-five for it," said the salesgirl, thoughtfully.

She took it from the showcase and wrapped it daintily with narrow, white ribbon, while Billy fished pennies and nickels from his pockets. Then as he hurried from the store, holding his dearly bought treasure carefully in both hands, she took fifty-five cents from her own slender purse and dropped it into the cash drawer.

When Billy, bankrupt in fortune but very rich in love, came in sight of the big hotel, he awoke to the fact he was clad in garments not too whole and clean, and that his face and hands bore unmistakable signs of his wrestle with a stubborn soil.

"I ought to 'a' had my Sunday clo'es

on," he murmured distressfully, "but I gotta go on now. She might go to night."

Heart's Delight was sitting on the long veranda surrounded by her faithful courtiers. In the shadow, behind the little group, sat a young man with averted face and gloomy eyes. He had come to spend his one poor little week of vacation near Natalie, but he had scarcely had speech with her.

Tomorrow he must go back, and—well, the years that lay before him seemed very dark—long, weary years of bootless toil. All his thought, all his labor had been for her; although he had never been very hopeful; and now the last shred of hope was gone.

By the time Billy reached the foot of the tall veranda he was apoplectic with embarrassment. Breathing stertorously, he began the long ascent, painfully conscious of the sudden silence above, and the amused eyes that were scanning his worn and scanty garments.

He laid the little packet in his lady's lap and would have turned and fled, but his limbs seemed to have lost the power of locomotion.

Natalie swiftly untied the string, while Billy watched her adoringly. He was not afraid of her, but of the strange people, with the mocking eyes.

"Oh, my dear little china heart," she

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gurgled. "And I thought it was sold. It was never here. But who sent it, Billy Boy?"

"I bought it," said Billy, swelling with pride.

"Why, Billy, Billy Boy! Where in the world did you get so much money?" she cooed, tenderly, putting her arm around him and drawing him to her side.

"I worked," answered Billy, displaying his brown, hard, little paws. He was not ashamed of them now.

"Why Billy, Billy Boy! And you did all that for me?"

"I'd do mor'n that for you. I'd do anything for you," said Billy, stoutly.

The young men laughingly murmured their approval of this sentiment. Involuntarily Natalie turned to the moody face behind her. Clifford had not spoken. He was still looking at the pine-covered hills that frowned darkly against the sunset sky, and it seemed to her that the lines pain had carved in his face had all at once grown deeper and harder.

She glanced down again at the adoring little countenance on her arm. Years before, Clifford's face had worn that same look of boyish idolatry, and it touched her now as his manly devotion had failed to do.

She rose, stooping to kiss Billy's forehead as she did so.

"I shall keep it as long as I live, Billy," she said.

"And you won't break it as you did the others?" Billy asked anxiously.

Natalie smiled strangely. "No, Billy Boy. I shall never break any more, I think—never any more."

Turning again, she said, gently, "Isn't it almost time for our walk, Clifford?"

With a great light in his eyes, the young man sprang forward, and the others made way for him as courtiers must do when the king comes.

As the two strolled down the pine-fringed road, Billy followed at a respectful distance, turning handsprings that greatly relieved his effervescent spirits.

Had she not kissed him before them all? Ah, she might chatter with these grown young men, dance with them, drive with them, walk with them—very close, as she was walking now; but kiss them? Never! They were far too big and old for that, Billy was sure.

Mary M. Parks in Household Ledger.

The Household.

(Continued from page nine.)

more work than one person can do properly in that department of the household. Of course, it fell to my lot—as it usually does to the masculine half of the home partnership, to build the kitchen fire: "Get up, John, and get the fire started, by the time I get down there;" was a morning salutation that I soon became familiar with.

But, one day the gas man came our way. I didn't think much of it at the time; so, I just left him there talking to Lizzie, (that's my wife) and went on about my work.

Of course we bought a gas stove, and the company came half a block and nearly the full length of our lot to reach the kitchen with their gas-pipe connections.

The next morning Lizzie and I had a race to the kitchen, both bent on being the first to "start the fire" in our new cooking apparatus. She beat me by about three jumps, and had applied a match to one of the burners by the time I arrived. So I filled the copper bottomed tea-kettle and set it on the heater. In a remarkably short time the water was up to the boiling point, and the breakfast coffee was soon ready. Also the biscuits that Lizzie had deftly prepared (you see she had previously taken a lesson or two from the expert) and placed in the cute little oven,—with its "up" and "down" sections just like any other oven.

We were both proud and both glad when we sat down to that first meal prepared on our gas stove. It had been such a picnic. No fire to make, no ashes to carry out, no surplus heat;—no nothing but just convenient, pleasant and rapid cooking.

Formerly, Lizzie used to hurry home from her neighboring calls to prepare dinner for me. But, now when I come

home, I frequently find a little note like this:

"Dear Ned: I've gone to Katie's to spend the day. You'll find a good lunch in the oven, and you can heat the coffee in the pot, and boil an egg on the stove, if you like. Lizzie."

No cause to "kick" there, so I just follow up her suggestions and have a good dinner by aid of the gas stove, while Lizzie has a good time with sister Katie.

And then, just think, no more fire-making! Any one can strike a match,—even Lizzie—and I can lie in bed till most breakfast time if I wish to.

Indeed, for cooking in warm weather, the gas stove is the greatest convenience and comfort, ever put in a kitchen. And, it is absolutely safe. It is a good, quick economical source of heat.

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Senator Platt, of Connecticut, has presented to Congress a document giving the record of an American tree recently cut up for lumber which had lived for more than 2,000 years and had been successively attacked by forest fires exactly 1,059, 463, 324 and 204 years ago. This amazing record is contained in a letter to Senator Platt from Professor William Russell Dudley, vice-president of the American Forestry association, and head of the department of systematic botany at Leland Stanford, Jr., university. Professor Dudley is prominent in the movement to preserve the big trees of California, and Senator Platt is also interested in the subject.

In 1900 Professor Dudley made an extensive study of the California big trees. He obtained data by counting the concentric rings of growth on the cross sections of the felled trunks. The oldest tree that he examined began its existence in 525 B. C. His most interesting discovery, however, relates to the remarkable recuperative properties of these gigantic trees. The trunk of one tree that he studied was 2,171 years old. Here is its history as detailed by Professor Dudley:

"271 B. C., it began its existence. 'The first year of the Christian era it was about four feet in diameter above the base. '245 A. D., at 516 years of age, occurred a burning on the trunk three feet wide. One hundred and five years were occupied in covering this wound with new tissue. For 1,196 years no further injuries were registered. '141 A. D., at 1,712 years of age, the tree was burned a second time in two long grooves one and two feet wide, respectively. Each had its own system of repair.

'One hundred and thirty-nine years of growth followed, including the time occupied in covering the wounds.

'1580 A. D., at 1,851 years of age, occurred another fire, causing a burn on the trunk two feet wide, which it took fifty-six years to cover with new tissue.

'Two hundred and seventeen years of growth followed this burn.

'1797 A. D., when the tree was 2,068 years old, a tremendous fire attacked it, burning the great scar eighteen feet wide.

'One hundred and three years, between 1797 and 1900, had enabled the tree to reduce the exposed area of the burn to about fourteen feet in width.

'It is to be noted that in each of the three older burns there was a thin cavity occupied by the charcoal of the burned surface, but the wounds were finally fully covered and the new tissue above was full, even, continuous and showed no sign of distortion or of the old wound.'

Professor Dudley says that if these trees were protected from fire and from the lumbermen they would live many hundred of years longer, but so long as they are not in charge of the government they are not safe. "We ask for their protection," concludes Professor Dudley, "because the Calaveras trees are historically by far the most interesting of the big trees, because their preservation will afford the highest and most innocent gratification to the thousands of people who will visit them, and, lastly, we believe their preservation will be most useful to the scientific observer of the future in his work on problems in the origin and history of species, in climatology, in the laws of growth. All this work has a bearing on the problem how to treat our forests so as to equalize the varying amounts of precipitation of moisture in the semi-arid region to the best advantage of our water supply."

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Lots of fun in an Electric Simplex Telegraph Instrument. Uses the Morse alphabet, and will work any distance. Boys become expert operators and test themselves for lucrative positions by using these instruments, 90c each—or \$1.00 by mail.

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We will send a large package of silk remnants, all good size, also our big package of Embroidery silk beautiful assorted colors and a stamped linen Doily with our latest catalog, all for 10 cents. Address: **LEWIS & CO., Dept. 3, Rockville, Conn.**

A Bunch of Everything:

New book! containing the biggest and best, aggregation of side splitting stories, red hot, sizzling vaudeville monologues, up-to-date toasts, tricks, Filtration codes, words and music for piano or organ, of the latest song hits, ever published at the price, 10c. With catalogue. Agents write us; new branch of commerce. Open field. Address: **LEWIS & CO., Dept. 3, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA.**

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Astringent Lotion will positively cure all forms of skin trouble. Your money back, if it doesn't cure yours. By mail 25c. **SAMPLE FREE. THE SACKETT CO., 152 East 36th St., Chicago, Ill.**

Half Price For a short time we will give two years' subscription to our interesting monthly for 25 cents, one year 15 cents. **RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE, Milton, Pa.**

100 VISITING CARDS 20 sheets fancy tinted writing paper with your monogram stamped in corner, 20 envelopes to match, 35c. Send for booklet of styles. **Missouri Pig. Co., 1515 Semple Ave., St. Louis, Mo.**

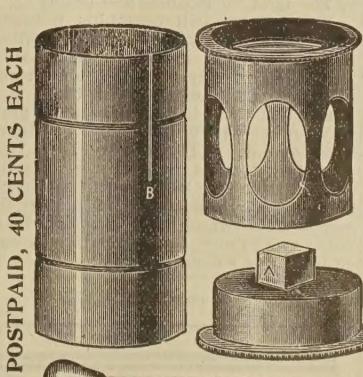
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All your used postage stamps, the kind that are cancelled now. Small or large lots, 1 and 2 cents, or any kind. We will send you a large premium list, for 10c. nice household articles and jewelry only 10c. **SILAS P. HOUSER, Dept. V., Lincolnton, N. C.**

A Combination Microscope that magnifies FREE 500 times



Postpaid, 40 CENTS EACH. Same as sold at Pan-American for \$1.00.

Free: We will mail one of these microscopes to any address postpaid for securing only 3 subscriptions to Vick's Family Magazine at our special 25c rate. (Your own name may be one of them.) It is easy to get subscriptions at our special 25c rate.

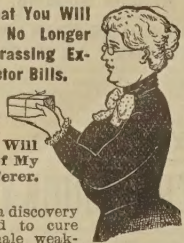
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I Cure Women

OF FEMALE DISEASES AND PILES

I Will Cure You So That You Will Stay Cured—Women No Longer Need Submit to Embarrassing Examinations and Big Doctor Bills.

To Show Good Faith and to Prove to You That I Can Cure You I Will Send Free a Package of My Remedy to Every Sufferer.



I hold the secret of a discovery which has never failed to cure women of piles or female weakness. Falling of the womb, painful menstrual periods, leucorrhoea, granulation, ulceration, etc., are very readily cured by my treatment. I now offer this priceless secret to the women of America, knowing that it will always effect a cure, no matter how long you have suffered or how many doctors have failed.

I do not ask any sufferer to take my unsupported word for this, although it is true as gospel. If you will send me your name and address, I will send you a trial package absolutely free, which will show you that you can be cured. The free trial packages alone often are enough to cure. *Just sit down and write me for it today. Mrs. Cora B. Miller, Box No. 41, Kokomo, Ind.

LADIES: For any remedy needed address **DR. FRANK MAY, Bloomington, Ill.** Box Free. Women who have used our remedies found them satisfactory in every case.

Ruptured
Send for our
DOUBLE RADICAL CURE TRUSS
SINGLE \$6.99
\$8.99 On Free Trial
"THE ONLY PERFECT TRUSS." Totally unlike anything else. You Pay When Satisfied. WE TAKE ALL RISK.
F. BUCHSTEIN CO., 634 1st Ave. S., Minneapolis.

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A Popular illustrated Story Paper Given Away.

We want names to whom we may send sample copies of our handsome illustrated story magazine. Send us five names and for your trouble we will send you our beautiful magazine a whole year free providing you include ten cents in your letter to pay cost of mailing. Everybody is pleased with our magazine; it is full of good stories, and has breezy, up-to-date departments of interest to the whole family. Don't miss this chance to get it free. Tell all your friends. This is a special offer for 30 days to introduce the magazine to new readers. Address PUSH MAGAZINE 516 Jackson St. Topeka, Kan.

TIMID WOMEN. Use Comfire for easy Child-birth. Compounded from herbs and roots growing in the West and used by Indian Women to make Child-birth easy. For particulars address, Co-Operative Mfg. Co., Waitsburg, Wash.

NEVER CUT A CORN
is dangerous. Our plaster will give safe and instant relief. Mailed direct. Five for a dime, fifteen for a quarter. Not sold by dealers. **Simplex Corn Cure, 1034 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.**

SU-LU THE WONDER.
The most wonderful Blood, Nerve, Stomach, Kidney and Bladder remedy on Earth. It will benefit you within 24 hours. Price One Dollar.
THE SU-LU CO., Racine Junction, Wis.

THE DOBSON X-RAY
Latest Scientific Wonder. Here is an article, here, that will please you. With it the clothes and dash transparent and the bones can be plainly seen. Just think of the fun you can have with it! Sample in strong box, with catalogue and agent's price. Ten cents, by mail.
J. H. PIKE, Dept. 27, Stamford, Conn.

PILES \$50 any case Mrs. Winkelman's Magic ointment fails to cure. Relief at once
50c a Box. Mrs. F. G. Winkelman, Clyde, Ill.

WE PAY \$32 A WEEK
and expenses of you with the best of us. No trouble, no loss. Year's contract. **IMPERIAL MFG. CO., DEPT. 60, PARSONS, KANS.**

MY FACE IS WHITE LIKE MILK
Landsfeld did it. \$1.00. **UNION CHEMICAL WORKS, Dept. V., Minneapolis, Minn.**

WANTED: 10 men in each state to travel, tack signs, and distribute circulars and samples of our goods. Salary, \$60.00 per month, \$3.00 per day for expenses. **Kuhlman Company, Dept. F., Atlas Block, Chicago.**

ABSOLUTELY FREE
Send 25c for box of Co Corn Cure. We send with each order a handsome and useful present.
CO REMEDY CO., Bridgeport, Conn.

EYE BOOK FREE!
TELLS HOW ALL EYE AND EAR TROUBLES MAY BE CURED AT HOME. Cataract, Granulated Lids, Sore Eyes, Falling Eyelids, Deafness, etc., may be cured by Mild Medicines, without knife or pain. Should be sent by every sufferer. FREE to all who write for it.
DR. F. G. CURTS, 1028 Grand Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

TAPE-WORM EXPULSED WITH HEAD. GUARANTEED. **DOBBY FREE, BYRON FIELD & CO., 182 STATE STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.**

The Hero of the Hour.

(Continued from page six.)

superscription Anita's. Ah! how the dead blood leaped to life in his veins! Seeking opportunity he read, Mr. Hollis Keene.

I always knew you had the heart of a hero, but now the world knows it. You saved my cousin Fielding's life; and you did it grandly; and the whole town is ringing with your praises; but do you know, sir, that while

"It is an excellent thing to have a giant's strength. It is tyrannous to use it like a giant?"

It is excellent to save a man's life but it is tyrannous to break the heart of a woman.

If the Hero of the Hour will not deign to give her a moment of his valuable society will he not condescend to write a line explaining his absence to one who believes herself entitled to so much of courtesy, and in whatever manner she has unwittingly forfeited what she holds dearest, will he not still accept the homage and gratitude of Anita?

If joy could kill there was eminent danger of a case of heart failure then and there, but a good constitution like Keene's can endure a good deal of unexpected happiness without damage to itself, and by the little spring of his limbs he seemed rather to have taken new lease of life as he strode up the street making straight for the vine-wreathed verandah and the true little heart which he knew awaited him there.

"My cousin," he mused, "of course he is her cousin. I heard long ago when Fielding first came here that their mothers were sisters, but deuce take it! I forgot it! I am as dense as a Colorado ranger! What right have cousins anyhow—but if she puts it that way, why of course I have nothing to say, but I'll claim the homage, every bit of it, and right from her own lips too,—and for once the "Hero of the Hour" got his due.

This is a tale of the long ago but with some modifications, Hollis Keene, by his wife's wish, is still in the cattle business. As better becomes a man of family with others depending on him, while still ready for any emergency, he is not so prone as of yore to plunge into danger; does not so much court hardship nor seek the too strenuous life.

He has a beautiful home on the edge of the "Divide" close by the proud little city of Minden, whose electric lights illumine his lawns, whose telephone service brings a whisper of the wide world's doings to his very ear,—where the cattle which he handles with the skill learned by large experience "top the market" and bring him in all the comforts of life. A beautiful home over which Anita presides with the grace and refinement of a charming nature; yet fair as it is, it is only one among thousands of such homes which are springing up all over Nebraska and are making the west like the Garden of the Lord for richness and beauty.

Hollis Keene still owns his thousand acres of Platte River valley land where his great herds graze through the summer up to their eyes in the blue stem. It is not on the market; for there is a rumor that there is gold beneath its gravelly surface which is bound to be discovered some day. That however is "a time awa," and not a thing greatly to be desired, for he who has love and health and a happy home has found in this life the purest gold which any age can bring him; and to one loyal, trusting, loving heart Hollis Keene is still the "Hero of the Hour."

THE END.

WEAR DIAMONDS
Send name and address and we will send you 12 of our Patented Jewelry Novelties to sell at 10c. each. When sold send us the money and we will send you **FREE** This Magnificent Flashing DIAMOND set in the famous Tiffany setting. The Ring is SOLID GOLD and guaranteed for years. Send name to day
A. STAPLES & CO., SO. FRAMINGHAM, MASS.

\$75,250 GIVEN AWAY

Each of these six small pictures represents a well-known Garden Vegetable. Can you guess the names of three of them? If so, the money is surely worth trying for. **THREE CORRECT ANSWERS WIN.** Send the names at once and you can participate in **THE GREATEST CONTEST EVER CONCEIVED.** Everyone has an equal

EACH OF THE SIX PICTURES REPRESENTS A GARDEN VEGETABLE. CAN YOU NAME 3 OF THEM?



chance to win a prize. If you have not succeeded in other prize contests you will surely succeed in this, because there is no catch about it—it is simply a test of your ability to name Three Garden Vegetables. Try it. During the past four years over 100,000,000 have been distributed to prize winners. If your solution is correct and you are entitled to a prize, we will write you how the awards will be made. Remember, you do not spend a cent and **YOU MAY WIN AS HIGH AS \$25,000.00.** Don't wait; write to-day. Address plainly: **NEW IDEAS VEGETABLE CONTEST, DEPT. 51, 1215 FRANKFORD AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

EVERY WOMAN
WITH HAIR ON FACE, NECK, ARMS AND MOLE, WILL BE EFFECTUALLY CURED OF SUCH A DISFIGUREMENT BY USING WHISKERINE IT IS A POWDEREASILY APPLIED REMOVING HAIR IN FIVE MINUTES WITHOUT INJURY TO THE MOST DELICATE SKIN, BUT LEAVES IT SOFT AS VELVET. ONLY TRY IT. AND YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT THE GREAT IMPROVEMENT IN YOUR PERSONAL APPEARANCE. NERVOUS ANGRY MEN USE IT FOR SHAVING AND THROW RAZOR AWAY. LARGE PACKAGE SENT BY MAIL ON RECEIPT OF \$1.00. TRIAL PACKAGE 25 CENTS. MONEY BACK IF NOTES REPRESENTED. SMITH, MFG. CO. UTICA, N.Y. Dept. G

IF YOU ARE SICK

or ailing, and have failed to find relief, write to me at once. Give name, age, sex, color of hair and eyes, most troublesome symptoms, 2c postage, and I will send you a Scientific Diagnosis of your case FREE and outline a course of treatment that will cure your ailments. Dr. J. C. Batdorf, 36 Diag., Grand Rapids, Mich.

1427
SIX Fringe Cards, Love, Transparencies, Escort & Acquaintance Cards, New Postals, New Games, Premium Articles, etc. Sample Book of Visiting & Hidden Name Cards. Send 2c. stamp for all. **OHIO CARD CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO.**

\$30.00 weekly and expenses to men
with rigs to sell \$1.00 bottle Sarsaparilla for 35 cents. Add. with stamp F. R. Greene, 59 Dearborn St., Chicago.

Walking With Death!

YOU AT THIS MOMENT



are, perhaps, arm in arm with the monster and do not know your peril!

If you have the least trouble with your heart, death is ever by your side watching—waiting, till, by some little over exertion, you give the chance to instantly strike out your life!

DEATH FROM HEART FAILURE COMES WITHOUT A SECOND'S WARNING! The rapid increase of Heart Disease is awful—appalling. Six people in every ten have some trouble with their heart. Most of them don't know it, and are doctoring the stomach, kidneys, or female organs when these troubles are really only SYMPTOMS caused by the wrong heart, which controls every other organ of the body. Nine cases in ten the NERVES are affected, too—the one disease brings on the other. It is useless to treat the heart alone. The nerves also must be restored.

If you have never examined your heart and nerves, do so now. If you already know that they are diseased and weak—even if the trouble is deep-seated, of years' standing, and has an awful, almost deadly hold, and everything you've tried has failed—don't give up, for help is here!

If you need this help, write us and we will send you by mail, free and postpaid, without any conditions, without restrictions, and without cost,

A FULL FREE BOTTLE OF DR. FULLER'S HEART & NERVE TABLETS

and illustrated book which tells you all about these diseases and just how to take the tablets and be well. **Both are FREE.** This offer is to prove to you what the tablets will do. We already know, but you do not. We have tested them in over forty thousand cases. They failed, on an average, once in each 204 trials. In almost every failure was some other incurable trouble which made a cure impossible. Can you wonder at our faith? Yours may be one of the few incurable cases—we do not yet know—but this test will tell—and the test costs YOU nothing. The risk—the cost—is ours.

For more than a year we have spent the whole receipts of our great business to tell sick and discouraged people of our remedy—to make them this offer. The very fairness of the thing shows our confidence. If it were a common remedy, or if it failed often, we could not do this, for our success depends upon the good it does—the cures it makes. One reason why the Tablets cure such hopeless cases is because they not only strengthen and regulate the heart, but also revitalize and restore every nerve and nerve centre in the body.

YOU CANNOT MISTAKE THESE SURE SYMPTOMS. Go over them carefully. Have you pain, tenderness, or numbness around the heart? Is left side? arm, or shoulder blade? palpitation? fluttering? skipping beats? short breath? panting from going up stairs? choking? numb, faint, sinking, deathly spells? dizziness? nightmare? asthma? swelling legs? Are you NERVOUS? Irritable? easily tired out? frightened? or excited? Do you have creeping sensations? hot flashes? hysterics? melancholy? dread? loss of memory? Are you weak and run down?

No case has all, some of the worst only a few. If, therefore, you have one or two, your heart and nerves are surely wrong. Delay means danger—sudden death! Can you refuse help—yes, life—when offered you like this? Address plainly,

THE HEART CURE CO. 127 MASONIC BUILDING, HALLOWELL, MAINE.

A. C. HOWLAND, M.D., one of New York's most noted physicians, says: "Since 1890 I have prescribed your Tablets in a great many cases of Heart and Nerve diseases, and as yet without a single failure. They are a very wonderful remedy."

STOMACH TROUBLES CURED

If you suffer from Dyspepsia, Stomach, Liver, or Bowel Trouble of any kind, read this liberal offer. IT WILL BE WORTH MONEY TO YOU.



Do you suffer from dyspepsia, indigestion, or stomach, liver, or bowel trouble of any kind? If you do, why not let us cure you? We do not mean help you by dosing you with a strong, stimulating Soda and Rhubarb Compound, or patent "Dyspepsia Pills." Such things will stimulate and ease temporarily, but in the end will only irritate and further weaken the already diseased and weakened membranes. We will completely and Permanently Cure You. We will go to the very foundation of your trouble, will remove the causes, strengthen and tone up the affected membranes, perfect the digestion, regulate and strengthen the bowels, and make you as strong and hearty as you ever were. We could give you testimonials by the thousand of those we have cured of stomach troubles in all forms and stages, but they would not tell you what the treatment will do for YOU. The only absolute proof is in the treatment itself, and knowing the Wonderful Cures we have made for others, and believing that we have a treatment that will positively cure any case, no matter how complicated or long standing or how many have failed in the past, that we will send a full two weeks' treatment to any sufferer desiring to give it a trial. Many are cured by this treatment alone. Why not make a trial of it yourself and learn what it will do for you? It is Free. Address Dr. Peabody Institute of Health, 51 Main St., Battle Creek, Mich.

perfect the digestion, regulate and strengthen the bowels, and make you as strong and hearty as you ever were. We could give you testimonials by the thousand of those we have cured of stomach troubles in all forms and stages, but they would not tell you what the treatment will do for YOU. The only absolute proof is in the treatment itself, and knowing the Wonderful Cures we have made for others, and believing that we have a treatment that will positively cure any case, no matter how complicated or long standing or how many have failed in the past, that we will send a full two weeks' treatment to any sufferer desiring to give it a trial. Many are cured by this treatment alone. Why not make a trial of it yourself and learn what it will do for you? It is Free. Address Dr. Peabody Institute of Health, 51 Main St., Battle Creek, Mich.

Wakeful?

Sleeplessness Is a Sign of Nerve Trouble and Should Be Looked To.

There are three different manifestations of sleeplessness.

First, hardly to sleep a wink all night, second, to lie awake a long time before falling asleep; third, to fall asleep soon, waking up after several hours and then find it hard to sleep again.

They mean that somewhere in the nerve fibres, somewhere in the brain cells, somewhere in the blood vessels that carry blood to the brain, something is radically wrong, and must be righted, or the end may be worse than death.

To right it, take Dr. Miles' Nerve. Some other symptoms of nerve trouble are: Dizziness, Headache, Backache, Worry, Fretfulness, Irritability, Melancholy, Lack of Ambition.

They indicate diseases which may lead to Epilepsy, Fits, St. Vitus' Dance, Nervous Prostration, Paralysis, Insanity. Nothing will give such quick and lasting relief as Dr. Miles' Nerve.

"My husband had been sick for weeks, could not sit up to have his bed made. With all the medical help we could get he continued to grow worse. He could neither sleep or eat. Our baby girl was sent away, and all callers barred, because he could not stand a bit of talking. I read of a case of nervous prostration cured by Dr. Miles' Restorative Nerve. We began giving it to him, and in a few days he was able to be dressed. From that time he steadily improved. Nerve saved his life!"—MRS. A. G. HASKIN, Freewill, N. Y.

FREE Write to us for Free Trial Package of Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills, the New Scientific Remedy for Pain. Also Symptom Blank. Our Specialist will diagnose your case, tell you what is wrong, and how to right it. Free. DR. MILES MEDICAL CO., LABORATORIES, ELKHART, IND.



an hour at 10c each. When sold the money, \$3.00 and we will send you a guaranteed A. Q. Columbia Graphophone with three-song record. In case you are not pleased with the Graphophone, send it back to us and we will allow you \$3.00 on the purchase of any machine you may select from our catalogue. We will forfeit \$1,000 to any one proving any trick or catch about this offer, or that we give a toy machine or one that must be turned by hand. Our machine is a key winding, self-playing Columbia Graphophone, and with three-song record, is the greatest premium ever offered. Send for free list of records and graphophones. Send your reply to us at once and be treated fairly. A trial costs nothing. Address plainly, W. S. SIMPSON, Dept. 19, New York.

Robin Redbreast.
(A Prize Poem in our Late Contest.)

Pretty robin redbreast
Tripping here and there,
Chirping with contentment,
Singing everywhere—
Do you know how cheery
Are the notes you sing,
When you come to greet us
Early in the spring?

Loving thoughts we give you,
Hail you with delight,
Thank you for your coming,
Making earth more bright.
May your stay be pleasant
All the summer through,
And no harm nor danger
Ever come to you.

For we love the robins
And the songs they sing.
When they come to greet us
Early in the spring,
And we love the spring time
And the sunny days,
And with all the robins
Sing our notes of praise.

Emma C. Southwick.

Some Noble Trees.

On a hillside in Waltham, Massachusetts, not far from the depot, though the immediate spot is a sylvan solitude, are three huge white oak trees, monarchs of the woodland. I have often paused in passing by to look at and admire them. There those sentinels have stood for ages; the Indian children played beneath their branches long before Columbus planted the standard of Castile and Arragon upon St. Salvador; long before the Pilgrims set foot on Plymouth Rock. They attained their full gigantic stature many and many a year ago, but in summer their raiment is still of the brightest green, and their limbs as strong and unyielding as the solid rock. When other trees are tossing and bending in the wintry tempest, they stand motionless, looking down upon the strife of the elements, like masters of the storm.

The largest oak in England is said to be at Calthorpe, Yorkshire. It measures seventy-eight feet in circumference where it meets the ground.

An incident of the Revolutionary War which is authentic, though not included in our histories, nor widely known, is the story of the Liberty Tree which stood in Charleston, South Carolina. It was a huge live-oak which grew in the centre of the square between Charlotte and Boundary streets.

When the popular excitement over the Stamp Act was at its height in Charleston in 1776, about twenty men, belonging to the most influential Carolinian families, assembled under this tree, and were addressed by General Gadsden. He denounced the measure with indignation, and prophesied that the colonies would never receive justice from the mother country. He then, after a moment's solemn pause, declared that the only hope for the future lay in the severance of all bonds with England, and in the independence of the Colonies. This, it is asserted, was the first time that the independence of this country was spoken of in public.

The men assembled then joined hands around the old oak, and pledged themselves to resist oppression to the death. Their names are still on record. Most of them were distinguished for their courage and patriotism during the struggle which followed.

The Liberty Tree was regarded with such reverence by the enthusiastic Carolinians that Sir Henry Clinton after the surrender of Charleston to the British, ordered it to be destroyed. It was cut down and afterwards its branches were formally heaped about its trunk and burned.

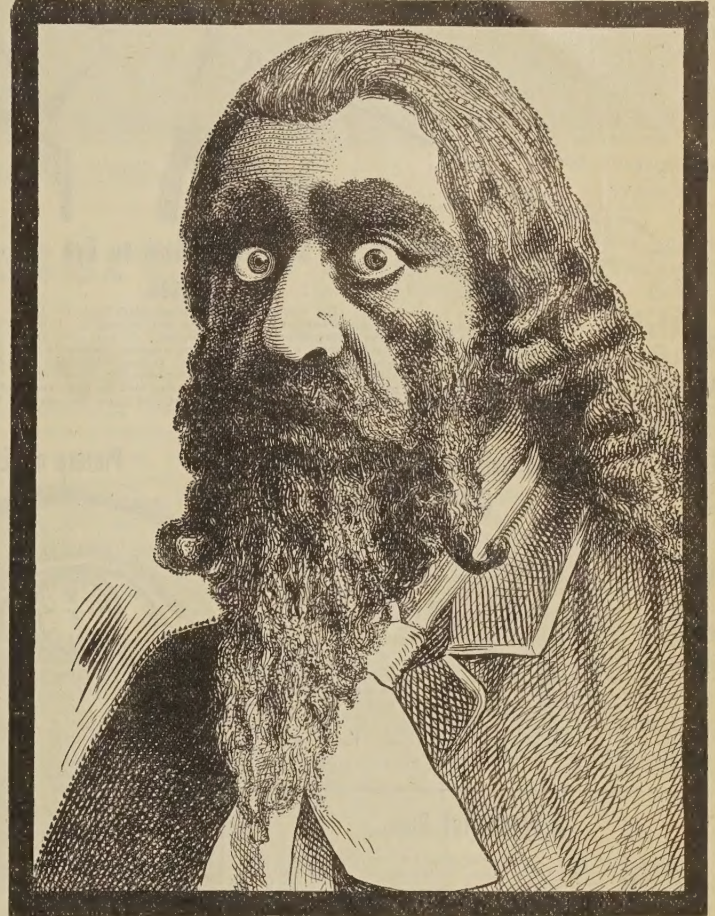
The great oak tree at Woodbridge, which was cut down not long ago, after an existence of nearly 2,000 years, has been made into chairs for the members of the Quinipiac Club of New Haven, the tree being a product of the state of Connecticut. This tree was doubtless the oldest along the Atlantic Coast, and the largest oak in the world.

George B. Griffith.

BOUND BY HIS SPELL

Strange Story of Hypnotic Control comes from Paris. Weird Being Fascinates Others by a Simple Eye Glance, and Startles All Europe with Mysterious Feats of Occultism.

His Secrets Exposed in a Free Book.



This is a picture of Svengali, the great hypnotist of Paris, who hypnotized Tribby, a simple country girl, and made her the greatest singer in the world and the sensation of Paris. According to the story, the photograph alone of this weird-looking gentleman was sufficient to throw his beautiful subject into the hypnotic trance. See how long you can look his picture full in the eye without feeling a strange sensation creeping over you. This simple test will give you an idea of the wonderful fascination of the hypnotic eye. Hypnotism is the most wonderful, mysterious and powerful force in all the world. But it is not at all necessary to look like Svengali in order to exert this strange and magic power over others. Anybody who can read and write can become a hypnotist and accomplish all that Svengali ever did, and more. You can now master this fascinating science at your own home. By a few hours study you can learn all about the secrets, methods, uses and wonders of the hypnotic trance. You can surprise and mystify all your friends by placing anyone you wish under this weird and magic spell, and compel them to see, think, feel and act precisely as you wish. You can sway the minds of others, perform the most wonderful feats and create fun and amusement for hours at a time. You can do a thousand amazing things that other people cannot do, and make yourself famous in a week's time. If you want to make money you can do so by giving entertainments, curing diseases, or teaching the art to others. These are three sure and easy ways to win a fortune. Why be poor? Why work for others when you can master this money-making profession so easily? Investigate now. It costs nothing to find out all about it. Prof. Harraden, the world-renowned hypnotist, has issued a large and elegant FREE BOOK, entitled, "A Key to the

Mysteries of Hypnotism," and anybody can get a copy of it without one cent of cost, merely for the asking. Simply send for it by letter or postal, and it will be sent you free and prepaid by return mail. It is the most beautiful, interesting and valuable book ever published. It contains hundreds of beautiful pictures and is a marvel of elegance and splendor. The cover is a gem of art, and the printing and other features are simply perfect. Best of all, this charming book tells you just how to become a hypnotist. Every secret and mystery is here explained in the simplest language, and you are amazed to find that you can master all these powers yourself and wield the subtle forces of mind, as well as any operator in the land. You are also shown how you may heal the sick, relieve pain, cure bad habits, give sleep to the restless and comfort to the sorrowing. And for yourself, as this free book shows, you can win promotion, social and business standing, increase of trade, the influence, friendship or love you most desire, and, in short, all that is needed to make you rich, esteemed and happy as long as life lasts. This book also treats fully on Personal Magnetism, Magnetic Healing and kindred subjects, and how to cure yourself of any pain, ache, or disease. In spite of its great value and precious contents, this book is free to you—free as any gift ever held out by a generous hand. There is no cost, no charge whatever. Simply write for it and it will be sent by next mail, all charges paid. Don't send any money, not even a stamp, but send your name and address TODAY.

Prof. L. A. Harraden, Department 5,
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PATENTS 48-page book FREE highest references. FITZGERALD & CO., Dept. F, Washington, D. C.

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100 Visiting Cards, finest quality possible, only 30c prepaid, 50 for 20c. Agts. send stamp for samples. A. J. Kirby, 30 V. Ash St., Fall River, Mass.

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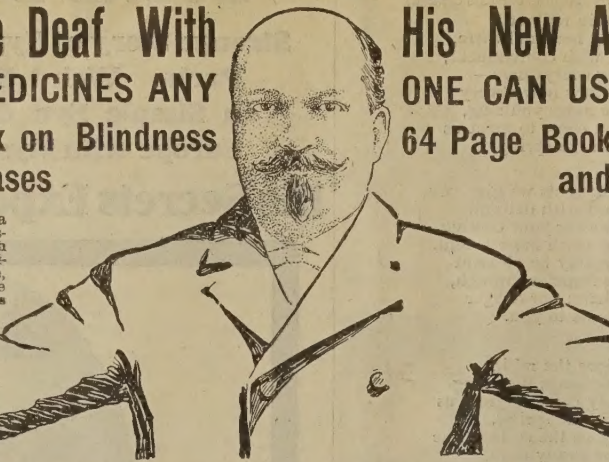
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and Ear Diseases

FREE

Dr. Coffee, of Des Moines, Iowa, has just published a 50,000 edition of his new book on Blindness and Eye Diseases. This book explains how people afflicted with Blindness, Cataracts, Granulated Lids, Inflammation, Ulcers, Scars, Scums, Films, Paralysis of the Optic Nerve, Glaucoma, Weak and Congested Eyes, and all other eye diseases, can cure themselves at their own homes by using Dr. Coffee's mild Absorption Treatment. This book will be sent free to all.

WRITE FOR BOOK
TODAY.



Dr. Coffee's Book on Deafness and Ear Diseases, recently published, will be sent free of charge to all people afflicted with Deafness, Head Noises and Catarrh. This book explains how all deaf persons can cure themselves and restore their hearing perfectly at their own home by using Dr. Coffee's New Absorption Treatment. All cases of partial or complete deafness due to catarrh or other causes can be cured.

WRITE FOR BOOK
TODAY.

THIS
80 PAGE
BOOK ON
EYE DISEASES
SENT FREE
TO ALL

Dr. Coffee's Book on Eye Diseases.

Dr. Coffee's 80-page illustrated book on the "Eye and Its Diseases" is the most wonderful publication on this subject. It has colored pictures showing the different forms of eye diseases. It has cuts and illustrations that make it possible for every person having weak or diseased eyes to diagnose their own case without going to a Doctor. It has all the rules of health, tells how to diet, bathe, take physical exercise, tells about deep breathing, etc. This book gives the history of the Absorption Treatment and its discovery by Dr. Coffee and his great fight against surgical operations upon the eyes.

Dr. Coffee's Book on Deafness and Ear Diseases.

Dr. Coffee has published a 64-page book on deafness, head noises and catarrh. This book explains the cause of all forms of deafness and ear diseases. It tells about catarrhal deafness, about necrotic ears, deafness from fevers, deafness in children, and about catarrh of the nose, throat and head. How he cures Hay Fever and Asthma. This book explains and gives illustrations of his wonderful little instruments and medicines used in curing deafness and ear diseases by his absorption method that anyone can use at home without visiting a Doctor.

THIS
64 PAGE
BOOK ON
DEAFNESS
SENT FREE
TO ALL

Gradually Growing Blind. Dr. Coffee Cured Me.

EMMETSBURG, Iowa.

Eleven years ago I was taken with acute inflammation of the eyes with Granulated Lids. I treated them at home for a year and then I went to a leading oculist and he treated my eyes for eight months, with no benefit whatever. Three months afterwards I got to suffering so bad with them and scums commenced to grow over my sight which made me so blind that I decided to go to another oculist. I kept changing doctors and had five different operations without benefit. Finally one doctor said that I would never get well. I gradually grew worse, and I got so blind that I could not tell a person right in front of me. When I heard of Dr. Coffee and his new treatment I went to him two years ago, and from the first day my eyes commenced to improve, and they steadily improved, until today I can see to read as well as anybody; the scums and scars have been absorbed and the sight is perfectly clear; the granulations have got entirely well, and I want to say that every one afflicted go to Dr. Coffee or write him, and be cured. His medicines are mild, but wonderful in their results.

Your friend,

MRS. LULU TAIT.

A Wonderful Cure.

WINDSOR STATION, Va., Nov. 10, 1903.

Dr. W. O. Coffee, Des Moines, Ia.
My Dear Sir—I was almost totally blind in my right eye, and could hardly see enough out of the other one to get around the yard. It was pronounced cataract and no one saw any hope except to have an operation performed to have it removed, which I protested against, owing to my age.
I heard about you through your advertisement, ordered a month's treatment, used it as directed, and today my eyesight is entirely restored. Words cannot express my gratitude to you and your remedies. You are at liberty to use this testimony in any way it may benefit you or suffering humanity. I am 73 years old.

Yours very truly,

MRS. M. A. ROBERTS.

Could Not See Across the Room.

KNOX CITY, Mo., Feb. 24, 1902.

Dr. Coffee, Des Moines, Ia.
Dear Sir—My eyes have been sore for the past 20 years; I was blind one year with Granulated Lids; I had them treated, and they were all right for ten years, but they got sore again, and I had them treated until I was sick and tired, and my left eye failed me again, and until the last two years I could not see my way across the room. One day my daughter read to me of the new method of treatment for the eyes given by the celebrated Dr. Coffee. I wrote to him and sent a statement of my case; he treated my eyes for one year, and today I can see as well as anyone who has attained the age of 74 years. I owe it all to Dr. W. O. Coffee.

Yours respectfully,

EMILY BETTS.

Cured After Many Disappointments.

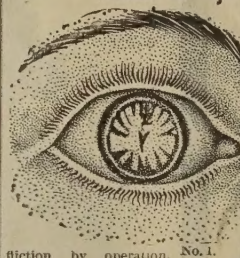
CLEMENTS, Minn., Dec. 17.

Dr. W. O. Coffee, Des Moines, Ia.
Dear Sir—I had been troubled very much with granulated eyelids and ulcers or growths on each eye between the pupil and the tear duct. Prominent physicians and oculists in Iowa and Minnesota did no good. I was advised by a friend to consult you, which, as you know, I did. After using your treatment for three weeks I dropped for a few days so I could see the effect and to my surprise the granulation and ulcers had all disappeared. I haven't used anything in them since then (September) and I can work in dust or smoke or anywhere, and they are as good and clear as ever they were. I am very glad that I consulted you, and will be very pleased to recommend you and your treatment to my many friends. Wishing you success.

Yours very truly,

JOHN S. GRANT.

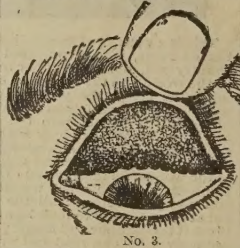
Picture of Eye Diseases.



No. 1.

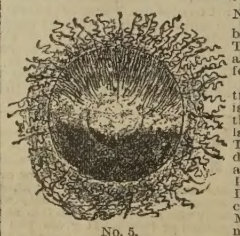
fiction by operation made it necessary to wait until the cataract became ripe. This was the condition of Mr. Laub's eye when he began treating it with the Absorption Treatment. In one month's time the cataract was completely absorbed, and sight restored.

Picture No. 3. Gran-



No. 3.

ing over the eye, which grew rapidly, began to spread in one corner of the eye and gradually spreads until the eye is covered and sight is completely destroyed. Doctors advise to have the removal of the eyeball.



No. 5.

The exact condition and appearance of the eye when afflicted with the various forms of eye diseases.

Picture No. 1. Cataract just commencing to form in the first stage, when it is most easily cured by Absorption. This is the way Mr. Laub's eye looked when the cataract first appeared.

Picture No. 2. Cataract almost perfectly ripe. Sight is completely gone. The old method of treating this af-

Picture No. 4 shows a watery tumor growing over the eye, which grew rapidly, began to spread in one corner of the eye and gradually spreads until the eye is covered and sight is completely destroyed. Doctors advise to have the removal of the eyeball.

Picture No. 5. This eye trouble is called Pannus, and is a growth or scum over the eyes caused from granulated lids and inflammation. This trouble was gradually destroying Mrs. Tait's sight and caused untold suffering. Doctors advised an operation. Dr. Coffee's mild medicines cured the trouble and saved Mrs. Tait from total blindness.

A Beautiful Child, Blind and Deaf. Restored to Sight and Hearing.



This is one of the most remarkable cures ever made. The case is that of the beautiful little girl, Miss Nada Parker of Moberly, Mo. This little 10-year-old girl was brought to Des Moines by her aunt, Mrs. Atherton, of Moberly, Mo. She was almost completely blind from inflammation, scums and cataracts on her eyes, and she was so deaf that you had to yell in her ears to make her hear anything. She had been treated by the best ear specialists in Chicago and Kansas City for three years without any benefit. Miss Nada Parker whatever. She was getting worse. In six weeks' treatment under Dr. Coffee's supervision her hearing was restored so that she could hear a watch 18 inches from her ears. Her sight was so good that she could read a newspaper. Mrs. Atherton says: "I don't think my niece needs much more treatment. I simply brought her up to Des Moines to let Dr. Coffee see how nicely she is getting along. Her hearing is practically perfect and so is her eyesight. We consider this one of the remarkable cures of this most incurable of diseases."

A Prominent Railroad Man's Hearing Restored.

VALLEY JUNCTION, Ia.

Dr. W. O. Coffee, Des Moines, Ia.
Dear Doctor—My trouble was brought on by a little cold, which produced a little soreness and tenderness in my ears; this cold settled in my head and produced a case of catarrh. I paid no attention to it until I began to get deaf; this alarmed me, because being in the employ of a railroad, I realized that the growing deafness, if not cured, would cost me my job. I went to a physician for treatment, but he gave me no encouragement whatever, and his treatment failed to benefit me or check the progress of the trouble. I could not hear a watch tick when held an inch from my ears. I sent for your treatment; the first month's use produced a slight improvement in my hearing. I continued your treatment six months. To-day my hearing is as good as ever and I consider myself completely cured, and my general health is a good deal better.

C. SCHWENK, Valley Junction, Iowa.



Mr. Schwenk.

Restored to Sight and Hearing.

GARVIN, Minn.

Twelve years ago I was attacked with inflammation and granulated lids, and, in spite of remedies that I tried, my eyes kept constantly getting worse, the granulations caused scums and films to grow over the eyeballs and the size of a pea formed on the sight, which ate into the eyelid and eyeball, almost perforating it. I could not distinguish an object, no matter how close I held it to my eye; the severe pain almost drove me frantic. Never in my life did I suffer more. My right ear was in very bad shape; it commenced to discharge when I was 12 years old; this discharge increased from time to time and finally caused a large tumor to form in my ear close to my ear drum. The horrible noises caused by this tumor and the pain of my eyes and ear caused me untold suffering. I was finally persuaded to write to Dr. Coffee, which I did, fully explaining my case to him, and in a few days I received from him by mail some medicines, with full instruction how I was to use them. Soon I noticed a vast improvement. I continued to use his treatment and gradually the scums, granulations and ulcers were completely absorbed, not even leaving a scar, and today my eyes are in first-class condition. I can read and see to do any kind of work without trouble.

The tumor has been entirely removed from my ear and ulcers and inflammation healed and I can hear ordinary conversation as plainly as I could before this terrible misfortune overtook me. Words cannot express my deep-felt gratitude for the benefit I received, from the Absorption Treatment.

Yours truly, MRS. MILLIE A. GREENMAN.



Mrs. Millie A. Greenman.

SPECIAL NOTICE—All people desiring a copy of either one of these books are requested to specify which of the two is wanted, as only one book, either Eye Book or Deaf Book, will be sent to each party. When writing state which one you want. **Write for Book to-day.** Address **DR. W. O. COFFEE, 999 GOOD BLOCK, DES MOINES, IOWA.** Write Dr. Coffee all about your case and he will send you his professional opinion free.